# DMM Scans

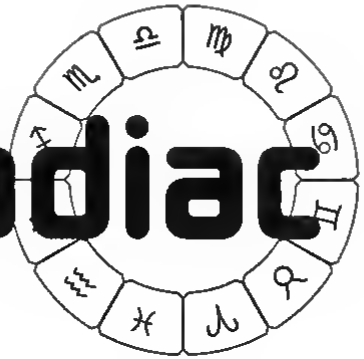
Share and Die!!!

# Zodiac P.I.

Natsumi Ando

TOKYOPOP

# Zodiac P.I.



Vol. 1

Natsumi Ando

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THANK GOD FOR PHONE TIPS!
WE GOT HIM!!
WE NABBED THE SERIAL BURGLAR!
SOME KIND OF PRIVATE INVESTI-GATOR?
AND LOOK, HERE'S ANOTHER STAR MARK!
SHE DID IT AGAIN!
I AM SPICA ZODIAC P.I.!!
I'M HERE TO SOLVE ANY CASE!

Translator - Takae Brewer
Editor - Julie Taylor
English Adaptation - Chris Poole
Contributing Editor - Jodi Bryson
Editorial Consultants - Alethea and Athena Nibley
Retouch & Lettering - Karen Taylor
Cover Layout - Raymond Makowski
Graphic Design - Monalisa de Asis

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Email: editor@TOKYOPOP.com
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十二宮(じゅうにきゅう)つかまえて
FOOTPRINTS OF A VIRGO (PART 1)
File 1
おとめ座の足跡
(前編)

# GREETINGS FROM THE AUTHOR

HI! IT SEEMS LIKE FOREVER SINCE I WROTE THE LAST SERIES. I BET YOU'RE WONDERING WHAT THIS NEW SERIES IS ALL ABOUT! THE TITLE, "ZODIAC P.I.", DOESN'T TELL YOU MUCH ABOUT THE STORY, DOES IT? IN A NUTSHELL, IT'S A DETECTIVE STORY. SOME READERS ASK ME WHAT "ZODIAC" MEANS. IT MEANS THE ASTROLOGICAL SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC, LIKE IN A NEWSPAPER'S DAILY HOROSCOPE. THIS SERIES HAS MYSTERY AND ASTROLOGY. I HOPE YOU ENJOY IT!! I TOOK A FOUR-WEEK VACATION AND TOTALLY RELAXED. BUT DURING PART OF MY VACATION, I WORKED VERY HARD, RE-DOING MY ROOM. I ACHE ALL OVER!!

FOR THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS, I'VE BEEN WORKING AT NIGHT, LIVING IN A WORLD WHERE DAY AND NIGHT ARE REVERSED.
THIS MESSED ME UP BIG TIME BECAUSE NOW I DON'T GET SLEEPY UNTIL DAWN!!
I'VE GOT TO FIX THIS!

*I FEEL SO LAZY!!*

I GUESS I SHOULD LOOK AT THE BRIGHT SIDE: THE NIGHT LIFE IS A TON OF FUN!

*MY CHARACTERS WEAR MINI SKIRTS!*

*I THINK THE MOST ATTRACTIVE PART OF A GIRL'S BODY ARE HER LEGS! AM I WEIRD? THAT'S WHY I TEND TO MAKE MY CHARACTERS WEAR MINI SKIRTS!*

AN OLD FRIEND?
SOMETHING UNEXPECTED...
A REUNION WITH AN OLD FRIEND...
WHO COULD THAT BE? HMMM.
OLD BUD
OLD BUD
DON'T INTERRUPT ME WHILE I'M READING.
AND ANOTHER THING...
CALL ME MADEMOISELLE LILI WHEN I'M IN MY READING ROOM. OKAY?
LILI!
DID YOU READ TODAY'S NEWSPAPER?
WHO IS THIS PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR WHOSE IDENTITY IS ONLY KNOWN AS SPICA, NAMED AFTER THE STAR?
SHE HAS BEEN SOLVING A NUMBER OF CASES EVER SINCE.
SPICA, THE MYSTERIOUS PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR, APPEARED ON THE SCENE, IN THE BEGINNING OF THE MEIJI ERA.
SPICA SOLVES ANOTHER CASE!
THIS... THIS CAN'T BE.
LILI!
LET'S CHECK MY DAILY HORO-SCOPE.

ULI?
OH, MAN!
LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT YOUR MOM. SHE AND I MET WHEN I WAS A ROOKIE COP.
UH, SORRY DAD, I'M RUNNING LATE!
HOW DARE YOU SAY THAT! I'VE BEEN WORKING REAL HARD TO FIND YOUR MOM, TOO...
WHAT A SHAME. YOU'RE A COP, BUT YOU STILL HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT WHERE MOM IS! YOU ARE SO PATHETIC!
DAD!
AND UNTIL MOM COMES BACK,
I'M THE CHIEF ASTROLOGER HERE!
KAORUKO ...
BESIDES, I AM STILL TALKING ABOUT YOUR M...
SEE YA!
TODAY'S HOROSCOPE SAYS AQUARIANS SHOULD WATCH THEIR HEADS!
DAD!
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?
DAD! BE CAREFUL.
WHOA! MY RING!!
THIS IS THE RING MOM LEFT ME! IT'S PRECIOUS!!

I'M READY TO ROCK TODAY! TOTALLY ENER-GETIC.
U...
Ouch!
I'M LILI HOSHIZAWA, 13 YEARS OLD! I'M A JUNIOR HIGH STUDENT WHO'S PRETTY GOOD AT ASTROLOGY.
MY FAMILY HAS PRACTICED ASTROLOGY FOR GENERATIONS.
AND I'M AN ASTROLOGER, TOO!!
キーンコーン カーンコーン
ガラ ガラ
I'M TALKING TO YOU!
学校
HEY, HOLD IT!!
AND I'M NOT GIVING UP!
ばっ
HYAAAAAAH!!

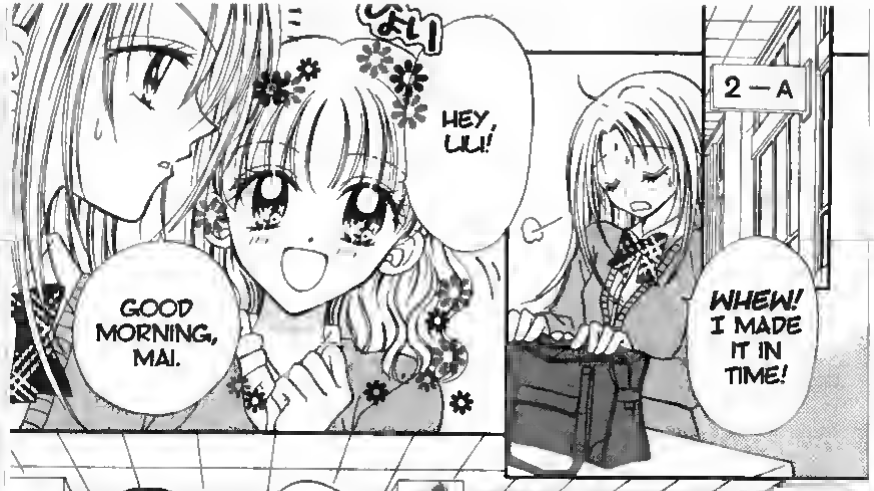
ARRRRGH! GET OUT OF MY WAY!
OH MY!
.....
.....
URG !

HMM. HIS FACE LOOKS KIND OF FAMILIAR.
WHAT-EVER!
WHAT'S WRONG...
...WITH THAT KID?
DON'T TOUCH ME!!
HUH?
I'M SORRY! ARE YOU OKAY?
WHA ...?
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT!

HOSHIZAWA STOP TALKING AND PAY ATTENTION!
OOPS!
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE ALREADY HERE.
SORRY MRS. ANZAI!
WELL, I DON'T THINK CHIHIRO IS HERE TODAY!
REALLY?

LET'S SEE, CHIHIRO SETO ISN'T HERE.
LET ME SEE IF ANYONE IS MISSING.

COME ON IN, HIROMI OKAWA.
OKAY, BEFORE STARTING TODAY'S HOMEROOM, LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO A NEW TRANSFER STUDENT.


HEY, LILI!
GOOD MORNING, MAI.
2 — A
WHEW! I MADE IT IN TIME!

NO CHANCE!
WOULD YOU DO ME A FAVOR? CAN YOU DO MY HOROSCOPE? I'M GOING HOME TODAY WITH TAKAKURA, THAT SUPER COOL SENIOR.

1 Yuki Hayashi
2 Chihiro Seto
3 Yumi Takahashi
4 Miyuki Ochiai
Adachi
Yamada
TODAY I HAVE YUKI HAYASHI FROM CLASS C,
4-5.
CHIHIRO SETO FROM OUR CLASS, AND...
I'M ALL BOOKED UP TODAY AND TOMORROW. I DON'T HAVE ANY OPENINGS FOR AT LEAST A COUPLE OF DAYS.
DARN IT!
'Scopes Schedule

CRIMINAL PSYCHOLOGY.
I ALREADY MEMORIZED ALL THEIR NAMES FROM THE LIST YOU SHOWED ME THIS MORNING.
TAKE YOUR TIME LEARNING YOUR CLASSMATES' NAMES.
BY THE WAY!
HE'S QUITE A GENIUS! HE'S ALREADY EARNED A DEGREE FROM AN AMERICAN COLLEGE.
HOW IMPRESSIVE!!
COLLEGE? WHAT DID YOU STUDY? HISTORY? MATH?
THAT WAS MY MAJOR.
CRIMINAL? PSYCHOLOGY?
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A SEAT NEXT TO HOSHI-ZAWA?

YOU!
YOU'RE THAT GRUMPY GUY I JUST SAW!!
ガタン
OKAWA LIVED HERE UNTIL HE WAS SIX.
THEN, HE MOVED TO THE UNITED STATES TO STUDY. AM I RIGHT?

1

## Profile

I wrote my profile for KC before, but let me give you the updated one

**Name** Natsumi Ando
(Not my real name)

**DOB** January 27th

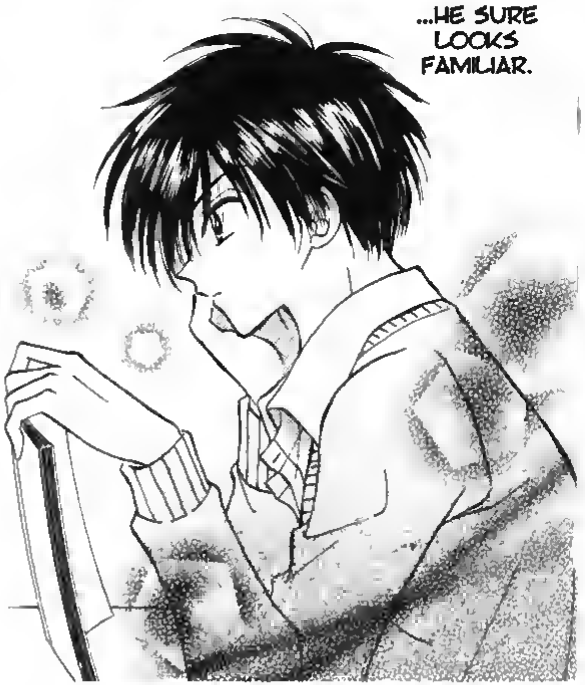
**Sign** : Aquarius

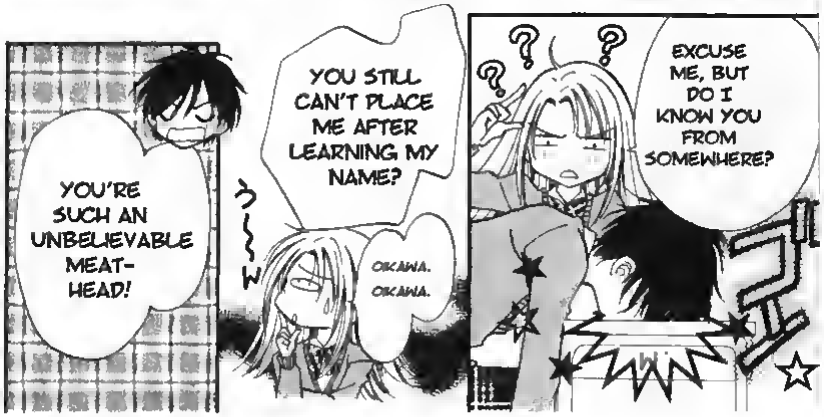
**Skills** I'm the ultimate multitasker I can listen to the radio, watch TV, eat and read a book, all at the same time! (Am I just lazy or what? Hee hee heel!)

**Favorite celebrities** It depends. Right now I'm a big fan of Morning Musume

**Favorite color** Primary colors like red and yellow

**Additional skills** Fast writing with not-so-great penmanship



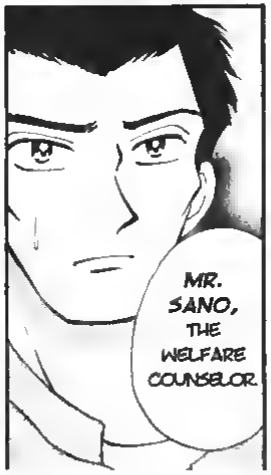

YOU'RE SUCH AN UNBELIEVABLE MEAT-HEAD!
YOU STILL CAN'T PLACE ME AFTER LEARNING MY NAME?
うぅ～ん
OKAWA. OKAWA.
EXCUSE ME, BUT DO I KNOW YOU FROM SOMEWHERE?

COME DOWN TO THE BACK OF THE GYM RIGHT AWAY!!
SETO?
MRS. ANZAI?
OH MY!
MRS. ANZAI, WE HAVE AN EMERGENCY!
IT'S ONE OF YOUR STUDENTS, CHIHIRO SETO!

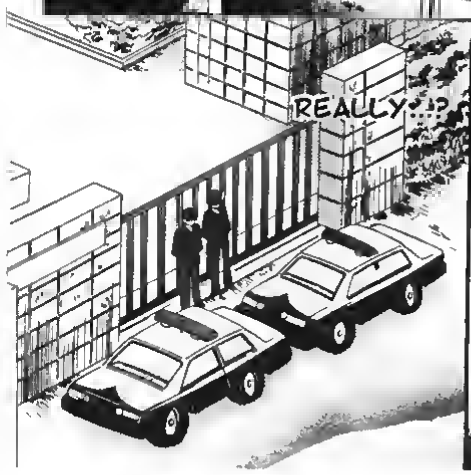
INSPECTOR HOSHIZAWA!
STAY BEHIND THE LINE!
ACCORDING TO THE AUTOPSY REPORT, SHE PROBABLY DIED SOMETIME BETWEEN SIX AND EIGHT O'CLOCK LAST NIGHT.
EVEN THOUGH YESTERDAY WAS SUNDAY, THERE WERE THREE TEACHERS AT SCHOOL.
WE QUESTIONED THEM, AND NONE OF THEM SAW ANYTHING WEIRD.

キャーあーあー

AND MRS. ANZAI, THE VICTIM'S HOMEROOM TEACHER. ARE THEY THE ONLY THREE WHO WERE HERE YESTERDAY?
HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN?


MR. SANO, THE WELFARE COUNSELOR.

MR. SASAYANAGI, WHO DISCOVERED THE BODY.


REALLY...!?

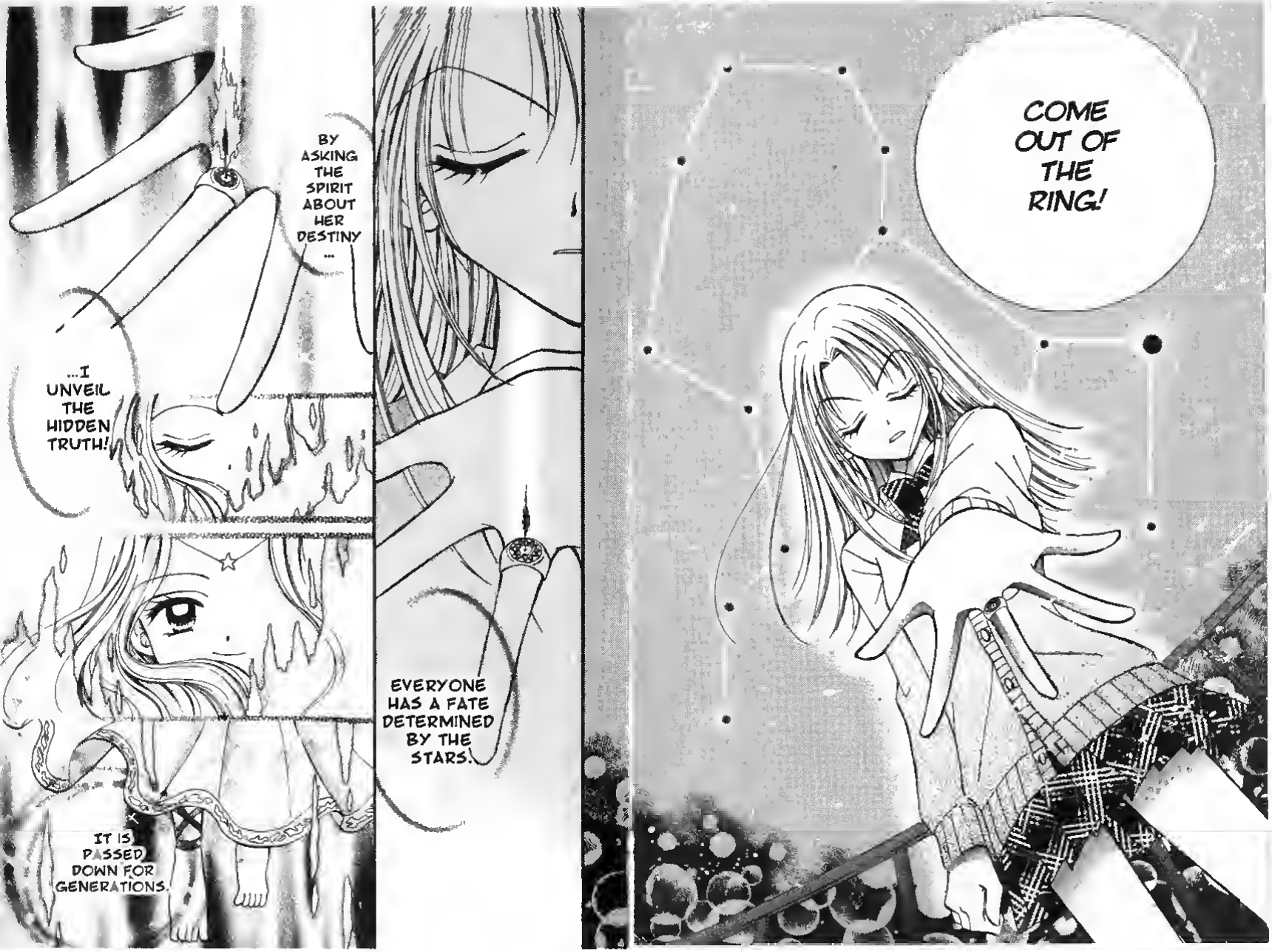
IS THIS WHAT THE DAILY HOROSCOPE WAS ALL ABOUT? SOMETHING... UNEXPECTED?
CHI... CHIHIRO?

WHAT?
OKAWA ?
IT'S STRANGE ...
...FOR SOMEONE TO TAKE OFF HER SHOES LIKE THAT BEFORE COMMITTING SUICIDE.
THIS IS NOT A SUICIDE.
WHAT KIND OF STUDENT WAS CHIHIRO SETO?
SHE WAS VERY TIDY AND DOWN-TO-EARTH.
BE SERIOUS! PLEASE...
I'M PRETTY SURE...
GEH!
DAD!
DON'T WORRY! I'LL SOLVE THIS CASE! THEY CALLED ME A MODERN-DAY SUPERSLEUTH.
...THIS IS A SUICIDE CASE.
EVEN THOUGH IT RAINED YESTERDAY AND SOME FOOTPRINTS MAY HAVE WASHED AWAY, THERE IS ONLY ONE SET OF FOOTPRINTS HERE NOW.
THESE FOOTPRINTS?
OH?
AND THE FOOTPRINTS MATCH THE VICTIM'S SHOES.

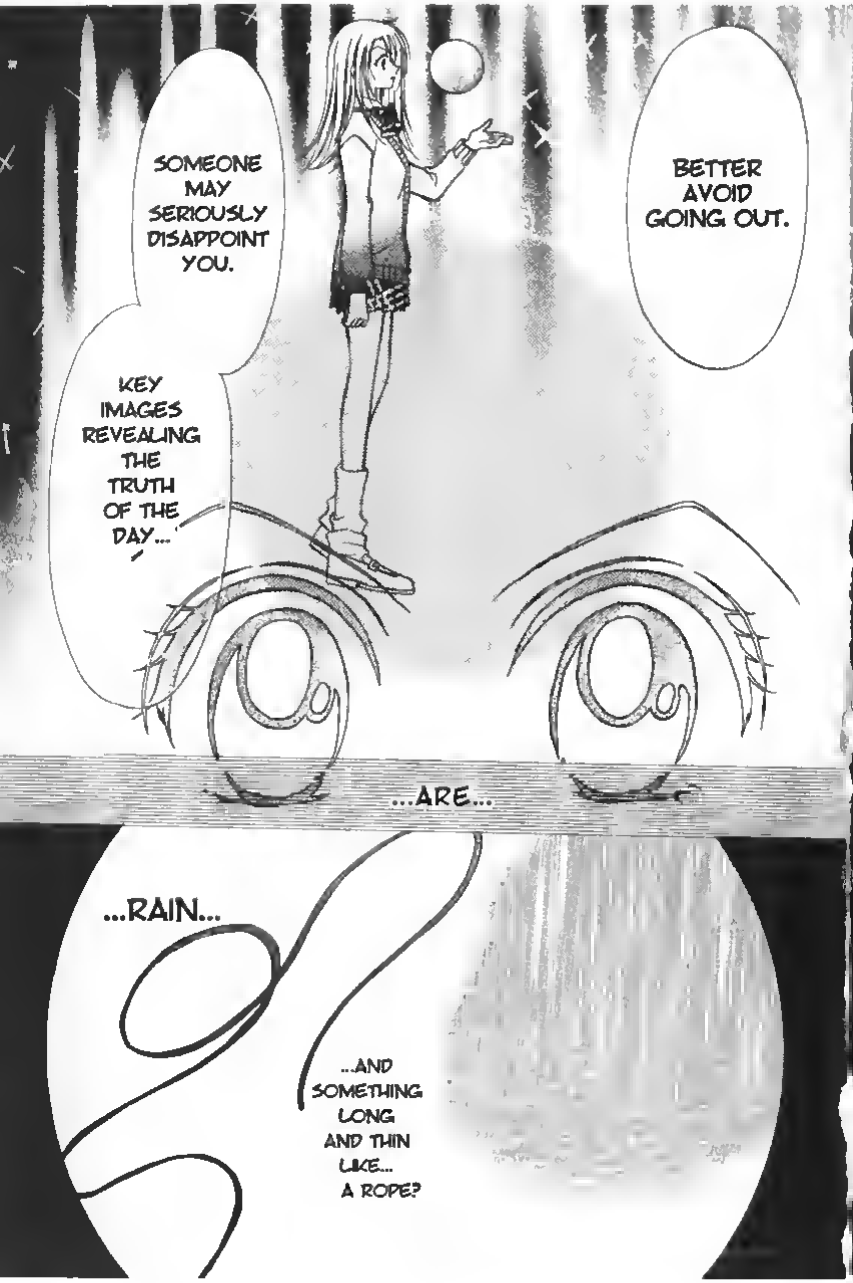
HUH?
LILI, DIDN'T YOU TAKE A SHORT CUT BY GOING THROUGH MAEDA'S BACKYARD TODAY?
HOW DID YOU KNOW?
JUST A SEC... I KNEW SOMEONE WHO TALKED LIKE HIM A LONG TIME AGO.
SEE? BUT A TIDY GIRL WOULDN'T TAKE HER SHOES OFF LIKE THAT.
YOUR HANDS AND KNEES ARE MUDDY. IT LOOKS LIKE YOU WENT UNDERNEATH THE BROKEN FENCE.
MAEDA HAS THE ONLY HOUSE WITH A FENCE UP HIGH ENOUGH FOR SOMEONE TO CRAWL UNDERNEATH IT.
ALSO, HERE'S A DOG HAIR. IT'S OFF THE SIBERIAN HUSKY IN MAEDA'S YARD.
WOW, HIRO. YOU SOUND AMAZINGLY LIKE A DETECTIVE.
THANKS!
YOU ARE... HIRO!
I WILL BE A GREAT DETECTIVE SOMEDAY, JUST LIKE SPICA!
WHAT?
YOU AREN'T MY OLD FRIEND FROM KINDER-GARTEN?!
I DON'T REMEMBER!! AND ANOTHER THING, DON'T CALL ME THAT!
WHO ARE YOU, YOUNG MAN?
OH!

SHE WAS A VIRGO.
LILI?
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?
MAI!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT DAY IS CHIHIRO'S BIRTHDAY?
SEPTEMBER 2. WHY?
ALL I NEED IS...
...HER BIRTH DATE.
...HIRO!
THIS IS...
BUT ...
GO BACK TO YOUR CLASS, AND STOP PLAYING DETECTIVE!
WHAT'S THIS NONSENSE TALK ABOUT THE VICTIM'S SHOES...?!
STOP PULLING ME!
YOU HAVE BEEN QUITE A DETECTIVE SINCE CHILDHOOD.
I TRUST YOUR INTELLIGENCE AND INTUITION.

HEY!
CHIHIRO MADE AN APPOINTMENT WITH ME FOR TODAY.
1. Yuki Hayashi
2. Chihiro Seto
3. Yumi Takahashi
4. Miyuki Ochiai
WHO WOULD MAKE AN APPOINTMENT FOR AN ASTROLOGY READING WHEN SHE PLANNED TO KILL HERSELF?
THERE MUST BE AN EXPLANATION!
NOBODY IS OUT HERE.
COME ON, PARTNER!
CHIHIRO SETO'S ASTRAL SPIRIT IS INSIDE THE STAR RING!
DEMETER, SPIRIT OF THE VIRGO!
ANSWER YOUR* MASTER*

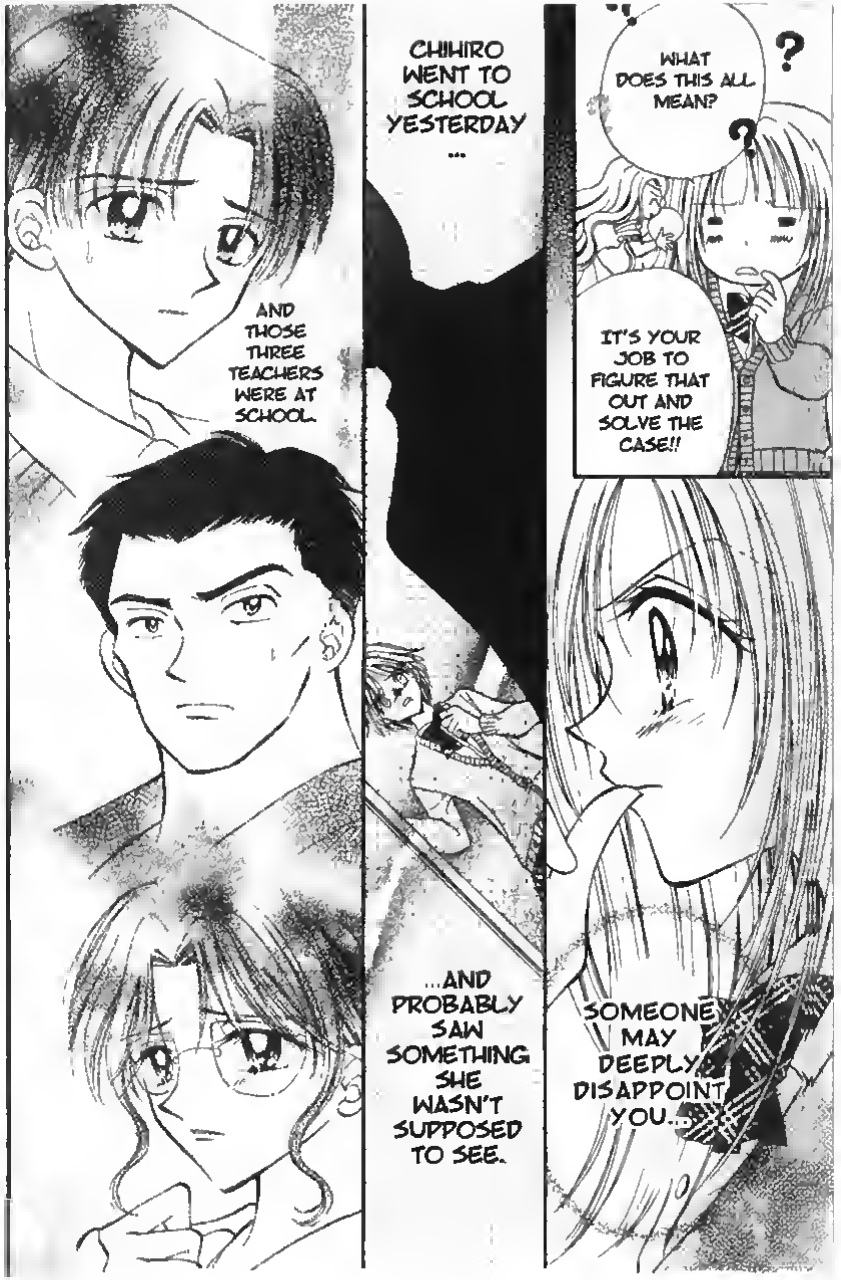

BY ASKING THE SPIRIT ABOUT HER DESTINY ...
...I UNVEIL THE HIDDEN TRUTH!
EVERYONE HAS A FATE DETERMINED BY THE STARS.
IT IS PASSED DOWN FOR GENERATIONS.
COME OUT OF THE RING!

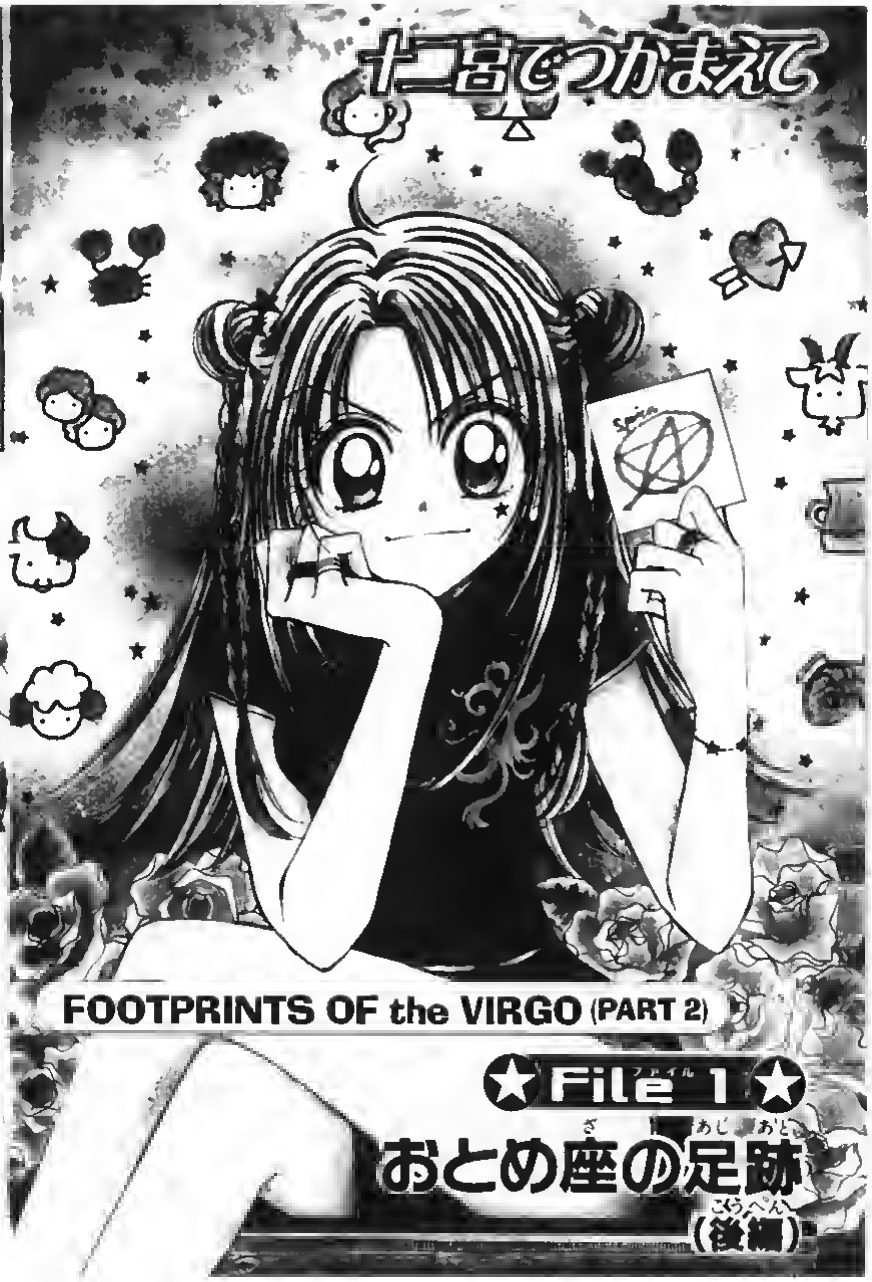
BEFORE WE START,
YOUR BOW IS CROOKED, LILI.
AND ONE OF YOUR BUTTONS IS ABOUT TO COME OFF.
GET YOURSELF TOGETHER!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS!
ACK!
IT'S THE POWER OF SPICA!
LONG TIME NO SEE, LILI!
YOU HAVE A CASE RELATED TO THE VIRGO, MY SIGN?
THAT'S RIGHT, DEMETER! CHIHIRO SETO, BORN SEPTEMBER 2, 1987.
SHE DIED YESTERDAY. GIVE ME HER HOROSCOPE FOR YESTERDAY!
Y...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO YELL AT ME!
OH NO!
I WAS JUST TRYING TO HELP! YOU'RE NOT FAIR!
GEH!


SOMEONE MAY SERIOUSLY DISAPPOINT YOU.
BETTER AVOID GOING OUT.
KEY IMAGES REVEALING THE TRUTH OF THE DAY...
...ARE...
...RAIN...
...AND SOMETHING LONG AND THIN LIKE... A ROPE?

THE VIRGO IS VERY DELICATE, AND I HAVE TO TREAT HER THAT WAY.
. . . . .
SORRY, I DON'T MEAN TO HURT YOU. I'LL FIX MY BOW AND BOTTON LATER, OKAY? COULD YOU DO HER HOROSCOPE NOW? PLEASE!!
WELL THEN...
GUIDED BY THE RULING PLANET AND THE SUN,
DEMETER SERVES THE OWNER OF THE STAR RING!
CHIHIRO SETO, VIRGO'S HOROSCOPE FOR YESTERDAY:

THE KEYS ARE RAIN AND A LONG, THIN OBJECT.
IN THE NAME OF THE STAR!!
FAIR ENOUGH!
I'LL FIGURE OUT WHO KILLED HER!
I'LL CATCH THIS GUY!


CHIHIRO WENT TO SCHOOL YESTERDAY ...
AND THOSE THREE TEACHERS WERE AT SCHOOL.
...AND PROBABLY SAW SOMETHING SHE WASN'T SUPPOSED TO SEE.
WHAT DOES THIS ALL MEAN?
IT'S YOUR JOB TO FIGURE THAT OUT AND SOLVE THE CASE!!
SOMEONE MAY DEEPLY DISAPPOINT YOU...




## Mademoiselle Lili's Astrology

The most common horoscope, such as the one you read in the newspaper, is based on the sun signs of the zodiac. In common horoscopes, the movement of the sun is the only consideration. In a more detailed astrological analysis, the positions of ten planets and their relationships to each other are also considered. In other words, each person has up to 10 signs that will determine their character and destiny. I have six signs: Aquarius, Pisces, Taurus, Gemini, Libra and Sagittarius. You might want to check what signs YOU have. Each sign has its own characteristics and putting it all together can be very interesting.

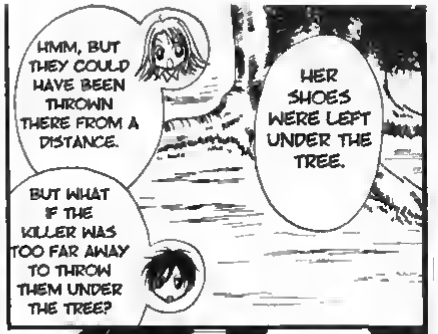
WHO'S THERE?
HIRO!
CLOSE CALL
HOW DARE YOU ?!
BUT HOW ABOUT THIS?
THE KILLER BROUGHT CHIHIRO'S BODY HERE WITH HER SHOES ON, HUNG HER ON THE TREE...
...AND LEFT THE SCENE WALKING BACK-WARDS, FOLLOWING PRECISELY THE WAY HE CAME IN, LEAVING NO MORE THAN ONE SET OF FOOTPRINTS.
THAT'S NOT PLAUSI-BLE.
DON'T CALL ME THAT!
YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO GO HOME, TOO!
ALL THE STUDENTS WERE SENT HOME FOR THE REST OF THE DAY.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
ME? I JUST COULDN'T GET MY MIND OFF THIS CASE.
ARE YOU HERE FOR THE SAME REASON?
IT STILL DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A SUICIDE TO ME.
BUT IT'S LIKE THE POLICE SAY: THERE'S ONLY ONE SET OF FOOTPRINTS.
...AND THOSE ARE CHIHIRO'S.

WHY SHOULD I TELL YOU?
IT SHOULD BE HERE IN THE STORAGE ROOM.
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR, HIRO?! WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?

AH-HUH. YOU PROBABLY DON'T EVEN HAVE A CLUE ABOUT WHAT YOU ARE DOING. YOU ARE SO VAIN. HOW VAIN YOU ARE, HIRO?
♡
.....

HERE YOU ARE!
GIVE ME YOUR SHOE.
...HOW IT CAN BE DONE.
LET ME SHOW YOU...

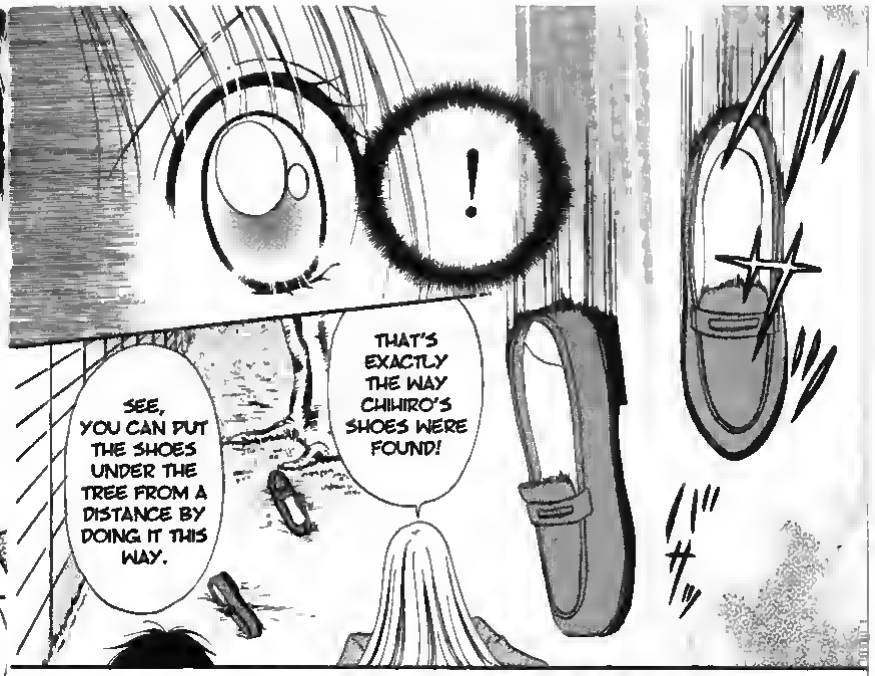
THE OBJECT DEMETER SHOWED ME WAS SOMETHING LONG AND THIN!
WHAT ?


HMM, BUT THEY COULD HAVE BEEN THROWN THERE FROM A DISTANCE.
HER SHOES WERE LEFT UNDER THE TREE.
BUT WHAT IF THE KILLER WAS TOO FAR AWAY TO THROW THEM UNDER THE TREE?

MAYBE THE KILLER PUT THE SHOES UNDER THE TREE FROM A DISTANCE, BY USING SOME KIND OF TOOL.
TOOL?

!
USING WHAT?
YOU CAN USE THAT TO PLACE THE SHOES RIGHT UNDER THE TREE FROM A DISTANCE.
THAT'S IT!!

OKAWA, WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOUR FACE?
ぶっ
ぶっ
SHOOT!
ぶっ
ALLER-GIC?
I'M ALLERGIC TO WOMEN! CONTACT WITH GIRLS GIVES ME A RASH.
I HAVE SOMETHING ELSE TO LOOK INTO.
ANYWAY, WHY DON'T YOU GO HOME?
IT'S NO LAUGHING MATTER!
HA, WHAT A BABY!
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO NOW?


!
SEE, YOU CAN PUT THE SHOES UNDER THE TREE FROM A DISTANCE BY DOING IT THIS WAY.
THAT'S EXACTLY THE WAY CHIHIRO'S SHOES WERE FOUND!
バサッ

ARGGGGH!
HEH.
YOU'RE SUCH A GENIUS!!
YOU GOT IT, OKAWA!

RAIN?
JUST AS THE FORE-CAST SAID!
THE OTHER HINT DEMETER GAVE ME...
..WAS RAIN
THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT THE FOOTSTEPS.
MAYBE BECAUSE...
I DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS SUPPOSED TO RAIN TODAY.
THEY SAID IT WOULD RAIN BY NOON.
HMM, IS IT POSSIBLE...
...THE KILLER KNEW ABOUT THE WEATHER?

LONG LEGS MEAN ...?
HUH?
DON'T BE SO RUDE. MY LEGS ARE JUST AS LONG AS YOURS.
ACTUALLY, MINE ARE LONGER THAN AVERAGE.
HOLD ON! DON'T WALK AWAY FROM ME LIKE THAT! YOU'RE WALKING TOO FAST!
I HAVE MUCH LONGER LEGS THAN YOU DO, THAT'S WHY!
LONG
STRIDES

I WANT TO CHECK OUT ONE MORE THING BEFORE I'M SURE.
THE STAR IS ALWAYS ON MY SIDE!
WHAT?
THANKS, OKAWA!
LILI!
HAVE YOU FIGURED EVERYTHING OUT ALREADY?
THERE ISN'T A CASE IN THE UNIVERSE I CAN'T SOLVE!
UU, I'M SO PROUD OF YOU!!

MR SASAYANAGI
MR SANO
MRS ANZAI
HUH?
HOW..?
FOOTPRINTS LEFT AT THE CRIME SCENE... CLUES GIVEN BY THE STAR SHOW...
RAIN EXPECTED BY NOON!
...HOW PIECES ARE PUT TOGETHER.

## The stars ★

When I was little, I loved looking at the starry sky. I ♥ even studied stars for my science project. I dreamed of becoming a curator who talks about stars and shows films at the planetarium. Unfortunately, I had no clue how to get a job like that. I also loved Greek mythology. Now that I'm grown, I feel differently about the god Zeus. After all, he's a womanizer!! I don't have a deep understanding of astrology, but I've been learning a lot by reading books about it. My staff and I often get a kick out of talking about signs and astrology during meetings.

I'M DETERMINED TO SOLVE THE CASE FOR CHIHIRO!!
BY THE WAY, YOUR SKIRT IS FRAYED AT THE HEM. YOU NEED TO FIX IT TONIGHT, OKAY?
YOU'RE SUCH A LITTLE NAG!!
WE'LL PROBABLY HAVE ANOTHER MEETING TOMORROW TO TALK ABOUT THIS.
YES, INDEED.
IT'S SUCH A TERRIBLE THING.
Truth of a Virgo will be revealed tonight! Come to the back of the gym at 7:00 p.m.
. . .

...
MATCHES YOUR STRIDE EXACTLY!
IT'S TRUE THAT THE ONLY FOOTPRINTS LEFT HERE ARE CHIHIRO'S.
BUT THE FOOTPRINTS DON'T SEEM NATURAL.
SOMETHING ISN'T RIGHT ABOUT THE STRIDE.
!
BUT THE LENGTH OF THE STRIDE ...
THE STRIDE IS TOO LONG FOR A JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL GIRL.
THE REASON YOU'RE STILL STANDING HERE IS BECAUSE THIS NOTE MAKES YOU VERY UNCOMFORTABLE!! AM I RIGHT?
EVERYTHING IS CLEAR NOW! YOU BROUGHT CHIHIRO HERE WITH HER SHOES ON...
...AND LEFT THE SCENE BACKWARDS EXACTLY THE WAY YOU WALKED IN!
124
MR. SANO.
MR. SASA-YANAGI.
THE SAME NOTE AS OURS.
SO HERE WE ARE!!
WE'D BETTER GO!
I FOUND THIS NOTE IN MY LOCKER.
Truth of a Virgo will be revealed tonight!! Come to the back of the gym 7:00 p.m.
WHAT BROUGHT YOU OUT HERE AT THIS HOUR?
LET'S NOT PAY ANY ATTENTION TO THIS TERRIBLE JOKE!
SOMEBODY MUST BE PLAYING A HOAX ON US. WHO COULD GIVE US SUCH A...
.....
YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT'S JUST A HOAX, DO YOU?
VOL.1

WHO ARE YOU?!
WHO ...
EVERYONE SEEMS TO BE TALKING ABOUT ME THESE DAYS!
YOU MAY HAVE HEARD MY NAME, TOO.
I'M SPICA, THE PRIVATE INVESTI-GATOR!
MR. SASAYANAGI!

SPI... SPICA?
NON-SENSE!
SO, YOU'RE SAYING I LEFT HERE WITH HER SHOES ON?
HOW CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE FACT HER SHOES WERE LEFT UNDER THE TREE?
SIMPLE, IT'S A TRICK!
IT WOULD BE SO EASY TO PUT HER SHOES THERE!
YOU GOT THIS TAPE MEASURE OUT OF THE STORAGE ROOM, AND USED IT TO THROW HER SHOES BACK UNDER THE TREE!
!
LOOK, I'LL SHOW YOU! FIRST YOU MAKE TWO LOOPS WITH THE TAPE!
ONE LOOP GOES THROUGH THE OTHER.
FINALLY, YOU TIE THE SHOES TOGETHER LIKE THIS.
YOU THROW THE SHOES OVER THE BRANCH, AND THEN...
...BY PULLING THE END WITH THE FREE LOOP...
...THE KNOT COMES UNTIED.
THAT WOULD RELEASE THE SHOES UNDER THE TREE!
THEN, YOU SIMPLY REWOUND THE TAPE AND TOOK OFF!!
SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAT?
YOU KILLED HER BEHIND THE GYM BECAUSE THIS DIRT IS SOFT AND MUDDY!
YOU THOUGHT IT WOULD BE SO PERFECT! YOU KNEW YOU COULD LEAVE JUST ONE SET OF FOOTPRINTS. WITH ONLY ONE SET, YOU THOUGHT EVERYONE WOULD ASSUME IT WAS A SUICIDE!
YOU ALSO KNEW IT WAS GOING TO RAIN.

OH, JUST SHUT UP, YOU LITTLE SNOOP!
ばり
NOW YOU HAVE THE SAME FATE AS CHIHIRO!
SO YOU DID KILL HER!
YES, I KILLED HER! BECAUSE SHE WAS BEING FRESH WITH ME!!
SO THE ONLY CHOICE YOU HAD WAS TO TELL THE POLICE YOU DISCOVERED THE BODY.
BUT THAT WAS YOUR MISTAKE. YOU PICKED A PLACE WHERE NO ONE WOULD SEE HER.
YOU WERE HOPING SOMEONE WOULD FIND HER BODY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
BUT YOU WERE AFRAID THE RAIN WOULD WASH AWAY ALL OF YOUR PLANTED EVIDENCE.
TELL ME, WHAT WERE YOU DOING HERE YESTERDAY MORNING? WHY WOULD YOU COME OUT HERE DURING HOMEROOM ACTIVITIES?
HA!
YOU LITTLE ...
PLAYING PRIVATE DETECTIVE, HUH?
COULD YOU GIVE ME A GOOD EXPLANATION, MR. SASAYANAGI?

MR. SASAYANAGI!
THAT'S ENOUGH!
WHY DID HE COME BACK HERE?
WHAT ...?
OKAWA ?

YES, I KILLED HER!
HEH, HEH.
HA HA HA HA HA !!
YOUR TESTIMONY HAS JUST BEEN RECORDED ON TAPE! I'M FAULTLESS!
CASE CLOSED
AT LEAST, THAT WAS MY PLAN— TO FINISH THE CASE LIKE A COOL HERO!
I CAN'T BREATHE.
I'M GONNA PASS OUT!
THIS IS NOT GOOD!
!?

I DIDN'T MEAN TO DO IT!!
SHAME ON YOU!
PLEASE DON'T TELL ANYONE!
IF ANYONE FINDS OUT ABOUT THIS, I'LL BE RUINED!
THE MONEY WAS JUST TOO TEMPTING. I'LL GIVE IT BACK, ALL OF IT!!
YOU KNOW I'LL HAVE TO TELL SOMEONE!
IT'S NOT RIGHT FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU TO KEEP WORKING AS A TEACHER!!
I'M GOING TO TELL MRS. ANZAI AND SHE'LL TALK TO THE PRINCIPAL ABOUT THIS.
THE NEXT THING I KNEW, I WAS...
I THOUGHT I HAD TO STOP HER SOME-HOW

I LOOKED AT CHIHIRO'S SHOES THAT WERE LEFT HERE.
THE LACES WERE TIED IN A WAY I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE.
THE SUSPECT MUST HAVE UNTIED THEM, TRYING TO GET THEM ON.
WHEN HE RETIED THE LACES, HE LEFT A CLUE.
YOU TIE LACES THE SAME WAY, MR. SASAYANAGI.
I ALSO FOUND EVIDENCE THAT SHOWED YOU EMBEZZLED MONEY FROM THE SCHOOL!
I FOUND THAT EVIDENCE ON THE SCHOOL COMPUTER.
CHIHIRO SAW WHAT YOU WERE DOING, SO YOU KILLED HER!
N...
NO!
I DIDN'T MEAN TO KILL HER!!

YOU'RE DIS-HONEST TO THE STAR!
AND YOU DESERVE 100 MILLION LIGHT-YEARS IN PRISON!!
THAT'S RIGHT. I SENT DAD AN E-MAIL.
SEE YA, I'M OUTTA HERE!!
THE POLICE ?
はっ
.....
URGH!
YOU DIDN'T MEAN TO KILL HER, HUH?
YOU'VE GOT TO BE ...KIDDING ME!
YOU TOOK CHIHIRO'S LIFE FOR MONEY!
YOU WERE BLINDED BY MONEY!
THEN YOU TRIED TO LIE YOUR WAY OUT OF IT ALL!!

I SURE DID KILL HER!

NO! A STRANGE GIRL LEFT ME THIS AS EVIDENCE!
DID, DID YOU...?

BUT, HER VOICE SOUNDED FAMILIAR.
SO THAT WAS SPICA

HEY, INSPECTOR, SPICA GOT AHEAD OF YOU AGAIN!
THE STAR MARK.

SPICA?
SHE DID IT AGAIN!

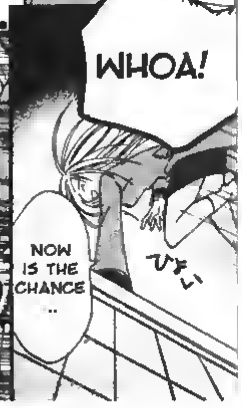
I CAN'T LET OKAWA FIND OUT SPICA'S IDENTITY!
YOU CAN'T BE...

HEY, WAIT!
OH NO, HE'S COMING AFTER ME!!

I'M ALLERGIC TO WOMEN!

THE EVIDENCE IS ON THE TAPE!
THANKS FOR HELPING ME!

WHERE IS THE SUSPECT?


WHOA!
NOW IS THE CHANCE..

IT'S BRIGHT AGAIN!
THE VIRGO CONSTELLATION IN THE SPRING NIGHT SKY...
I'LL SHED LIGHT ON ANY CASE!!
SPICA WILL...
...ALWAYS UNCOVER THE TRUTH!!
GOOD JOB, ULI!!
YOU DID THE RIGHT THING FOR CHIHIRO, THE VIRGO.
YOU HAVE TO WATCH OUT FOR YOURSELF, ULI!
SOMEONE MIGHT FIND OUT ABOUT YOUR IDENTITY AND COULD MISUSE YOUR STAR RING. BE VERY, VERY CAREFUL!!
I KNOW, I KNOW.
OH?
THE RAIN HAS ALREADY LET UP.
AND ALL THE CLOUDS ARE GONE NOW.
ENOUGH ABOUT THAT! YOU SOLVED ANOTHER CASE!!

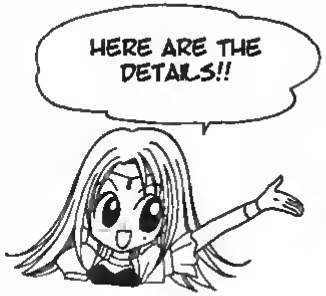
4コマ版

# Zodiac P.I.

IT'S ONLY MYTHOLOGY
WHY DOES IT LOOK LIKE THAT?
CAPRICORN IS HALF GOAT AND HALF FISH OR SOMETHING?
ONE DAY, PRIEST PAN TRIED TO ESCAPE INTO A RIVER BY TURNING INTO A FISH. BUT HE WAS IN SUCH A HURRY THAT HIS TRANSFORMATION DIDN'T QUITE WORK OUT. THAT'S WHY HE ENDED UP LOOKING LIKE THAT.
LET ME ANSWER THAT!
HE SOUNDS DUMB, DOESN'T HE, OIZAWA?!
MY SIGN REPRESENTS SUCH A DUMMY.
CHEER UP, CAPRICORN BOY!
IT'S ONLY MYTHOLOGY.

IT'S ONLY ASTROLOGY
HI! I AM LILI HOSHIZAWA, BORN APRIL 10TH.
THAT MAKES ME AN ARIES.
ARIES WAS A RAM THAT SAVED SOME BOYS' LIVES FROM THEIR BRUTAL STEPMOTHER.
THEIR SIGN REPRESENTS A HERO, JUST LIKE ME!
HI!
ARIES TEND TO GET MARRIED LATER IN LIFE THAN OTHERS.
The Criminal Mind
OIKAWA, DO YOU WANNA DIE YOUNG? I COULD DUMP YOUR BODY INTO THE TOKYO BAY!
ARIES ARE ALSO SHORT-TEMPERED!
IT'S ONLY ASTROLOGY.

TOMORROW ♡♡ THANKS, LILI!! I WILL DO EXACTLY WHAT YOU SAY!
GOOD LUCK!
OKAY, WHO'S NEXT?
I AM, I AM!
OKAY, OKAWA.
VENUS, THE STAR OF LOVE, WILL BE ON YOUR SIDE TOMORROW MORNING!
CONFESS YOUR LOVE TO HIM WITH A POLKA-DOT HANDKERCHIEF IN YOUR HAND!
AND SUCCESS IS GUARANTEED!!




★ Mademoiselle Lili's Astrology (2)

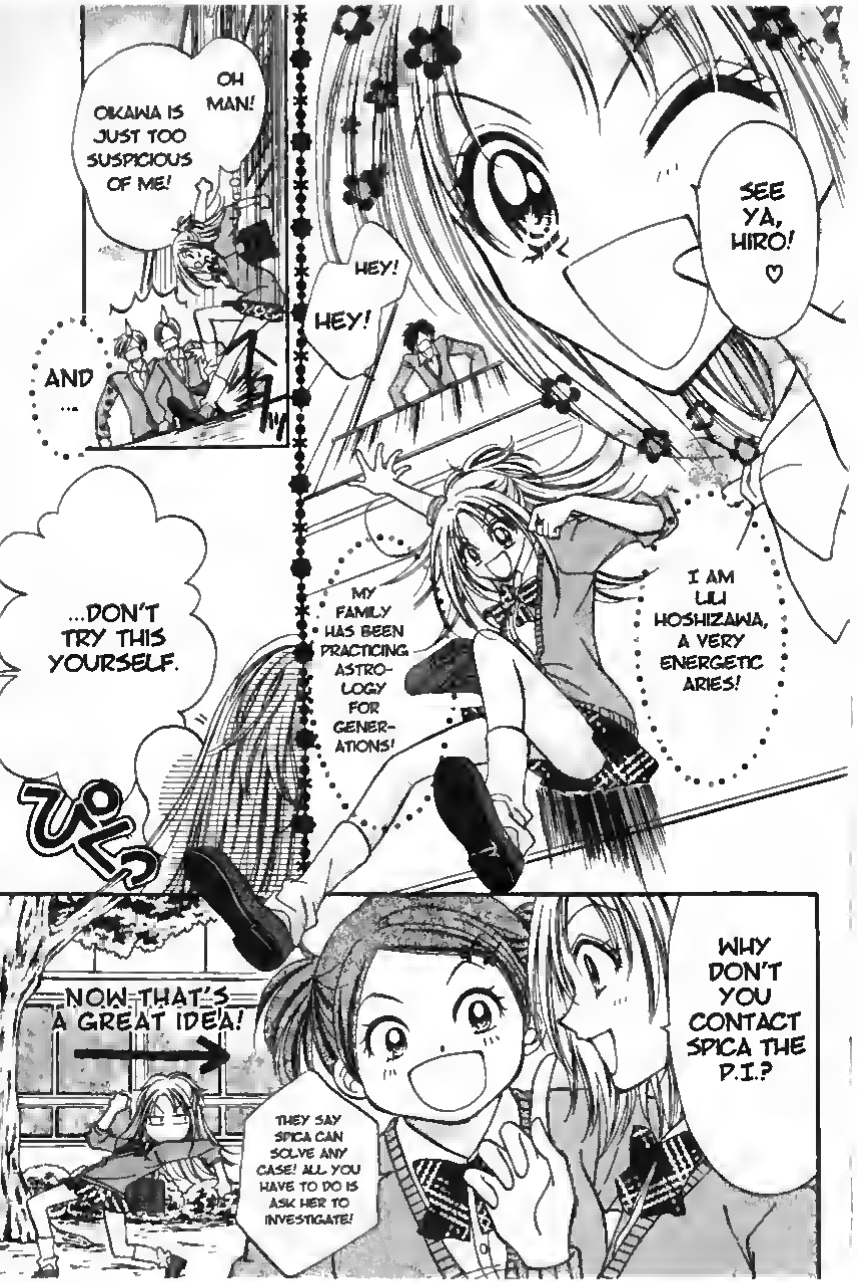
★ Element, Fire : Aries = Leo = Sagittarius

★ Element, Earth : Capricorn = Virgo = Taurus

★ Element, Air : Aquarius = Gemini = Libra

★ Element, Water : Scorpio = Pisces = Cancer

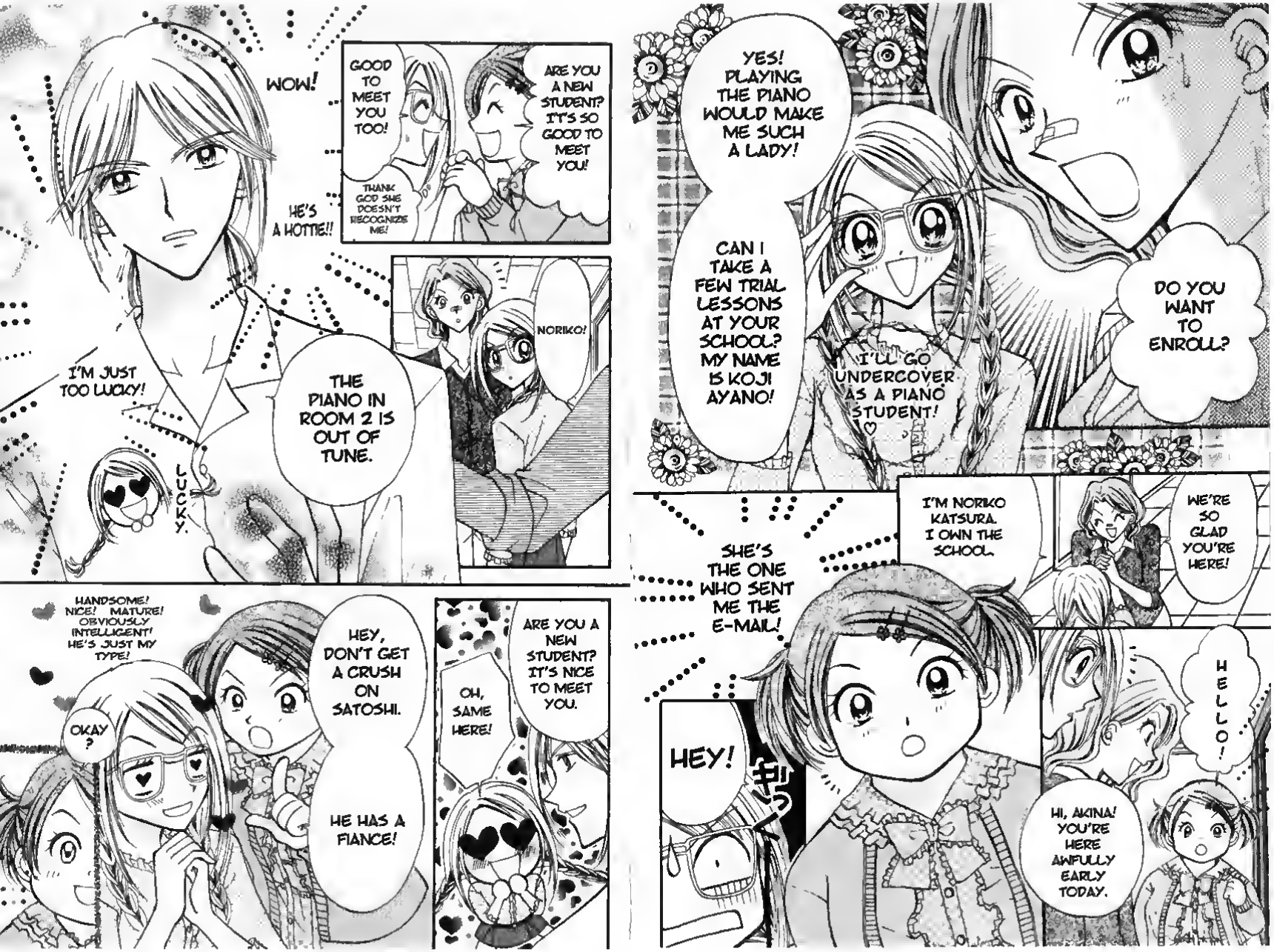
★ Those who are not compatible are
Fire signs = Water signs
Earth signs = Air signs


OH MAN!
OKAWA IS JUST TOO SUSPICIOUS OF ME!
AND ...
HEY!
HEY!
SEE YA, HIRO! ♡
I AM LILI HOSHIZAWA, A VERY ENERGETIC ARIES!
MY FAMILY HAS BEEN PRACTICING ASTRO-LOGY FOR GENER-ATIONS!
...DON'T TRY THIS YOURSELF.
ぴっ
WHY DON'T YOU CONTACT SPICA THE P.I.?
NOW THAT'S A GREAT IDEA!
THEY SAY SPICA CAN SOLVE ANY CASE! ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ASK HER TO INVESTIGATE!

OKAY.
LET'S START OFF...
AH, WELL...
TELL ME WHO SPICA THE P.I. IS!
...WITH YOU PUTTING YOUR HANDS ON THE CHART!
ぺたっ
!
LILI?
OKAY, TODAY'S HOROSCOPE FOR CAPRICORN: DON'T NOSE AROUND IN OTHER PEOPLE'S BUSINESS, OR YOU'LL LAND IN HOT WATER!!

GHOST?!
G, GH, GHO...
There is a ghost at my piano school. There have been some scary things happening there, too. Can you look into it?
Akina Nakamura
どっよーん
WA HA HA!
I'LL FIND OUT WHO'S BEHIND THIS!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
KATSURA SCHOOL
PIANO
IN THE NAME OF THE STAR!
NO WAY!
I KNOW HER E-MAIL ADDRESS!
WELL, GUESS WHAT? I KNOW HOW TO TALK TO HER!
YIKES !!
LET'S SEE, IT'S SPICA @...
YES WAY! LET'S GIVE IT A TRY!
PANT PANT
ARRRRGH!!
Pi Pi Pi
OH!
SHE SOLVED THE SCHOOL MURDER CASE IN NO TIME FLAT!
SHE'S TOO COOL!!
SHE JUST CAME OUT OF NOWHERE, AND POOF, CASE CLOSED!
LET'S SEE...
I'M THE ONE AND ONLY, SPICA, ZODIAC P.I.!
WHAT'S THE NEXT CASE?

3
Typical me
One day, at a slumber party...
Here's the ice cream for tonight
I went back to where my friends were. Then I realized...
Oh!
I completely forgot about the ice cream!
drop
Ha ha ha! The ice cream melted.
drop
ha ha!
Jeez, I'm an idiot! I get myself into so much trouble just because I forget stuff!! I know!
Let's just forget everything!
Ha ha ha!!
Let's just forget it!
ehhheh
HELLO? IS ANYONE HERE?
OKAY, THIS IS TOO SPOOKY!
WAAH!
ポン!!
A, A...
HU, HUMAN?
KATSURA SCHOOL
HA, HA, HA!
NOW NO ONE WILL FIGURE OUT IT'S ME!
BUT I AM READY! READY FOR ANYTHING! A GHOST OR... WHATEVER!
HAIR PIECE
AS FAR AS ANYONE KNOWS, I'M JUST A GIRL WITH GOOD UPBRINGING! THEY THINK I'M HERE FOR PIANO LESSONS!
CREAK
EXCUSE ME...


WOW!
I'M JUST TOO LUCKY!
LUCKY.
HE'S A HOTTIE!!
GOOD TO MEET YOU TOO!
THANK GOD SHE DOESN'T RECOGNIZE ME!
ARE YOU A NEW STUDENT? IT'S SO GOOD TO MEET YOU!
NORIKO!
THE PIANO IN ROOM 2 IS OUT OF TUNE.
HANDSOME! NICE! MATURE! OBVIOUSLY INTELLIGENT! HE'S JUST MY TYPE!
OKAY?
HEY, DON'T GET A CRUSH ON SATOSHI.
HE HAS A FIANCE!
OH, SAME HERE!
ARE YOU A NEW STUDENT? IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU.
YES! PLAYING THE PIANO WOULD MAKE ME SUCH A LADY!
CAN I TAKE A FEW TRIAL LESSONS AT YOUR SCHOOL? MY NAME IS KOJI AYANO!
I'LL GO UNDERCOVER AS A PIANO STUDENT! ♡
DO YOU WANT TO ENROLL?
SHE'S THE ONE WHO SENT ME THE E-MAIL!
I'M NORIKO KATSURA. I OWN THE SCHOOL.
WE'RE SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!
HEY!
HELLO!
HI, AKINA! YOU'RE HERE AWFULLY EARLY TODAY.

WHAT? CZE... NY... WELL, OKAY. WE CAN START WITH THAT. I KNOW OP 299
TZE... NY...
SO, WHERE DO YOU WANT TO START TODAY? HOW ABOUT CZERNY'S OP.299?
YES, NOW THAT'S ENOUGH TALKING, AKINA! IT'S TIME FOR YOUR LESSON!
OKAY, I'M COMING.
ほへ
ほへ
ほへ
HUH?!
WHO IS...?
SOMEONE IS STARING AT ME!

JEEZ, SHE'S SO PRETTY!!
HI, YUMIKO!
HEY, AKINA. DID YOU PRACTICE FOR TODAY'S LESSON?
I SURE DID!
THAT'S SATOSHI'S FIANCE. THEY MAKE THE PERFECT COUPLE, DON'T THEY?
DON'T QUIT NOW JUST BECAUSE SATOSHI IS ENGAGED. WE'VE ALREADY LOST A TON OF STUDENTS BECAUSE OF THAT!
REALLY ?
THEY'RE CRAZY IN LOVE WITH EACH OTHER!

4

## About Piano

File 2 is a story about the piano. Even though I can't play a musical instrument, I can respect those who can!! It's amazing how they can move all ten fingers at the same time to make beautiful music. I played the flute at school, or at least I pretended to play it. I can't read music very well. Things like sharps and flats are too confusing for me. I do love to listen to music though. Chopin's 'Polonaise Op.53 in A Flat Major' and 'Etudes Op.10' are my favorites. Oh, how I would love to be able to play the piano!!

By the way, in order to write this episode, I had to sneak into a local piano school and take some pictures. Some people may have thought my behavior was a bit suspicious!

KOJI AYANO IS A FANTASTIC TEACHER!
HEY KOJI AYANO TODAY IS YOUR LUCKY DAY!
A LONG TIME AGO, HE WAS A STUDENT HERE!
WHEN HE PUTS HIS MIND TO IT, HE CAN EVEN WIN FIRST PLACE AT THE CHOPIN COMPETITION.
BUT HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE A PROFESSIONAL PIANIST. IT'S SUCH A SHAME BECAUSE HE COULD HAVE A SUPER SUCCESSFUL PIANO CAREER.
ARE YOU LISTEN-ING?

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING. ARE YOU READY, MIYUKI?
WH... WHAT?
WOW
NORIKO, WHO'S THAT GIRL?
HUH?
BUT HMM. WHY WAS SHE LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?
HMM?
YOU MEAN MIYUKI? SHE'S QUITE THE HARD WORKER.
PIANO ROOM
UM, YEAH, SURE.
ULI, READY TO GET STARTED?

HIROMI OKAWA !!
WHAAAAAAT?
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING TO ME!!
THE ONLY REASON I PLAY THE PIANO IS BECAUSE I HAPPEN TO BE GOOD AT IT. I HAVE SOMETHING ELSE I WANT TO DO WITH MY LIFE.
WHAT-EVER!
IS THIS YOUR FIRST TIME TO PLAY THE PIANO?
WHAT ?
SHE'S ALL YOURS OKAWA!
WA... WAIT!!
IT'S NOT EASY TO BE A PIANIST, YOU KNOW.
UH OH !!
LILI HOSHIZAWA!!
HOW DARE YOU?!
OUCH!!
WRONG !!
IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME!!
WHAT!
THEN WHY DON'T YOU START WITH THIS ONE?!
NO! I'VE BEEN PLAYING FOR ABOUT FIVE OR SIX YEARS.
I SEE!

そろーり
OH PLEASE! GIVE ME A BREAK!!
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR PIANO LESSONS!! I'M HERE INVESTIGATING A CASE!!
ONLY PROBLEM IS THAT THERE ARE AREN'T ANY SIGNS OF GHOSTS OR ANYTHING!!
ピーン
PIANO ROOM 1
ばん
てけてけおおおお
!
ひいいいいいい

ひらきなおり
I'M JUST HERE FOR TRIAL LESSONS THAT'S THE ONLY REASON I CHANGED MY IDENTITY!
WHO SAYS I'M NOT HERE TO LEARN PIANO? IT'S NOT LIKE PIANO LESSONS ARE A CRIME OR ANYTHING!!
OH, I SEE.
WELL THEN, GET READY! I'M GOING TO BE A TOUGH TEACHER. YOU'RE GOING TO GET SUPER GOOD LESSONS!
WELL, OF COURSE I DID!!
YOU'VE KNOWN ALL ALONG IT WAS ME, DIDN'T YOU!
SO, WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?
ピアノ
THAT LITTLE ...
ニっぜん
WHAT?
ISN'T THAT SPICA THE P.I. SITTING OVER THERE?

!
UH !!
ダダダダ
PORTRAITS !!
THESE ARE JUST...
HUH?
TIME TO HEAD HOME!! I NEED TO GET OUTTA HERE BEFORE OKAWA FINDS ME!!
THERE AREN'T ANY GHOSTS HERE!

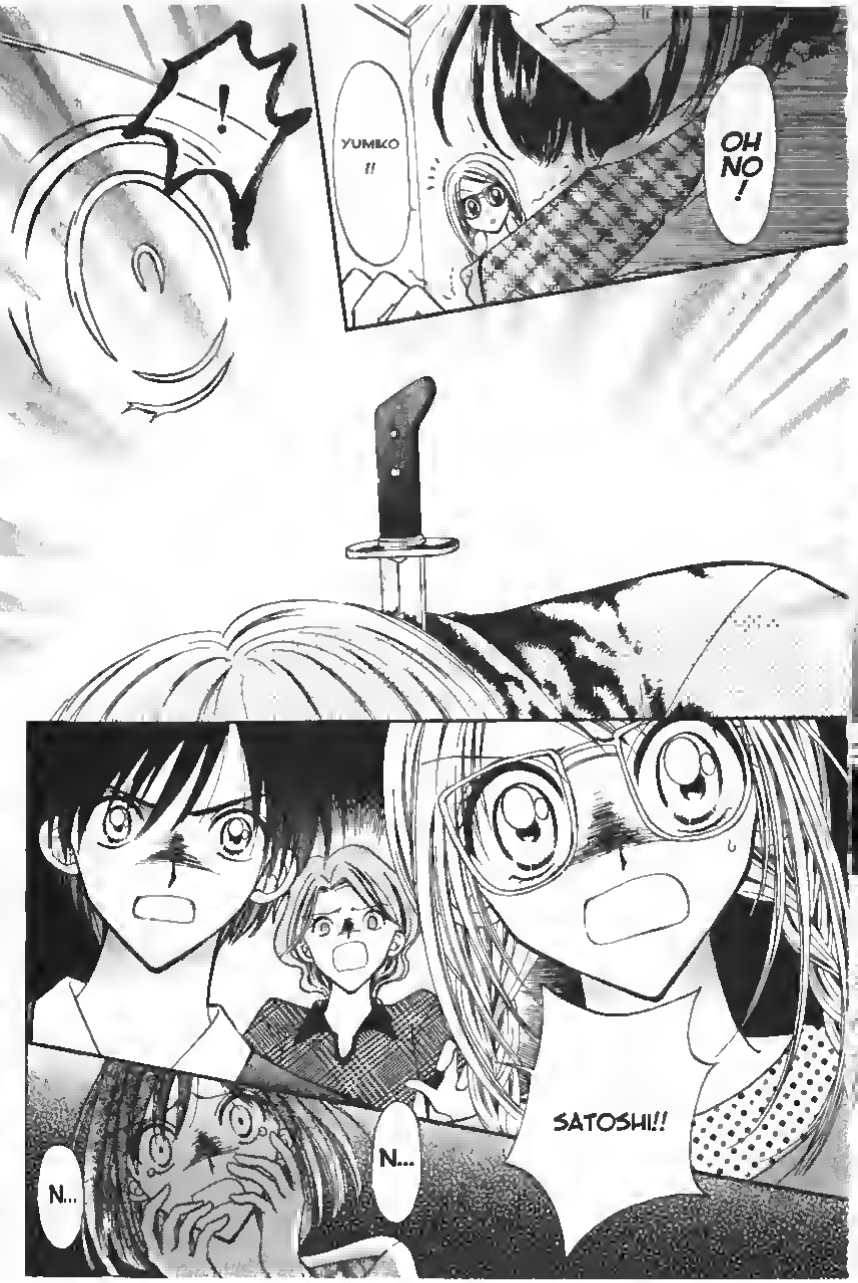
OUCH!!
はっ
I'M ALL RIGHT.
OIKAWA! ARE YOU OKAY? DID I HURT YOU?
はた
はた
はた
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE!!
JUST MY ALLERGY, THAT'S ALL.
MUST BE THE GHOST!
STOP IT, AKINA !!
THE GHOST MUST HAVE PUSHED HER DOWN THE STAIRS. IT'S THE RESTLESS SPIRIT WHO COMMITTED SUICIDE HERE.
...THE SPIRIT?!
THE SPIRIT FROM THE GUY WHO KILLED HIMSELF IS HERE?!
THIS IS THE EIGHTH TIME SOMEONE WAS PUSHED FROM THE TOP OF THE STAIRS!!
THIS MUST BE...
NORIKO YOU TOLD ME SOMEONE ONCE KILLED HIMSELF HERE IN THIS BUILDING!!

PIANO ROOM 1
YUMIKO !!
COMING FROM ROOM ONE!!
THAT'S YUMIKO !!
I NOTICED PICTURES FELL OFF THE WALL!
I... I JUST CAME TO ...
...GET SOMETHING IN THIS ROOM.
THIS IS...
CHOPIN
NO! NO, IT WAS NOTHING LIKE THAT AT ALL!!
SOMEONE ACTUALLY PUSHED ME!!
!!
あ
あ
あ
あ

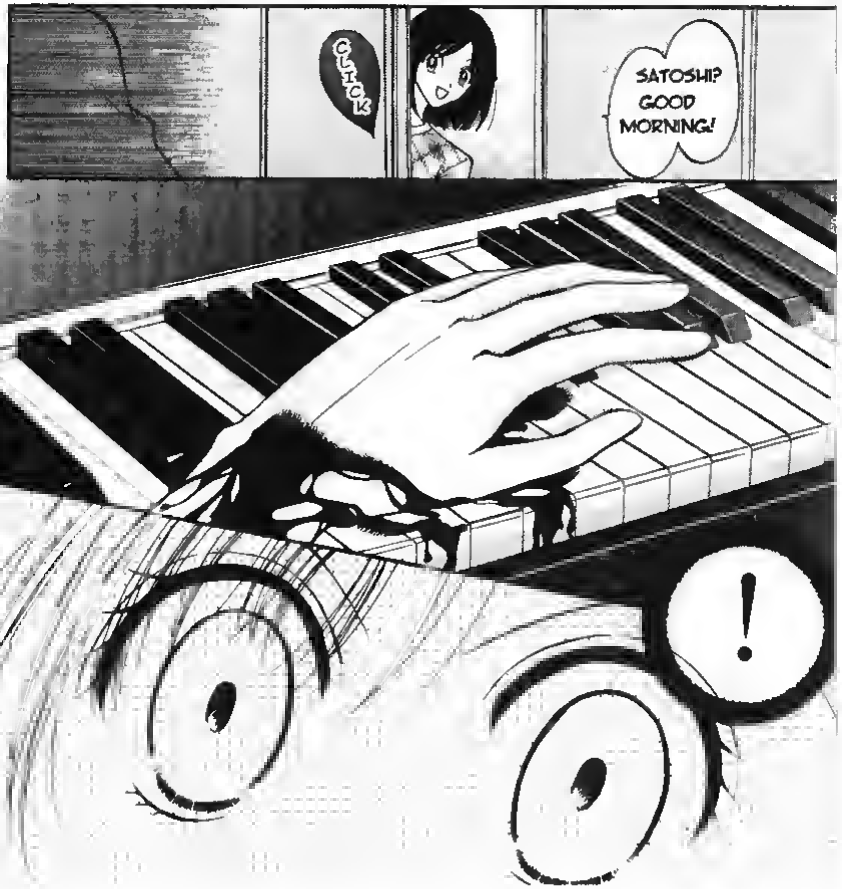
DEATH?
REALLY...?
THIS PLACE IS HAUNTED!! IT'S THE SPIRIT OF THE GUY WHO KILLED HIMSELF HERE!!
YOU'RE TELLING ME THIS PLACE IS HAUNTED?! WITH GHOSTS?!
THAT'S IT!! I QUIT!! THIS IS TOO FREAKY FOR ME!!
AKINA !!
CAN THIS BE TRUE ?
THEY'RE ARRANG-ED ON THE WALL LIKE...
"SHI" ?
!
...SHI! THAT MEANS DEATH!!
THE JAPANESE CHARACTER -
I DIDN'T NOTICE ANYTHING UNUSUAL WHEN I WAS HERE BEFORE!!

I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D BE BACK TODAY!
I'VE GOT TO BE HERE!! THE SCHOOL'S IN BIG TROUBLE!!
HEY
I THOUGHT YOU CHICKENED OUT AFTER YESTERDAY.
KOJI AYANO.
YOU'RE HERE EARLY FOR A SUNDAY.
YUMIKO AND OKAWA!
BESIDES, I WANT TO BEAT SPICA AND CRACK THE CASE BEFORE SHE CAN!!
PIANO ROOM 1
YOU GUYS ARE HERE EARLY.
I CAME TO SEE, WELL, HIM.
NORIKO.
SHE'S ALREADY HERE TOO.. HMM.
WHY'S EVERYONE HERE?

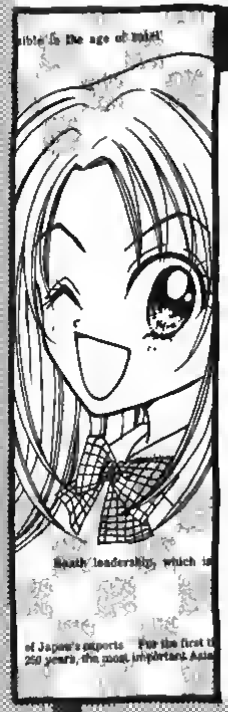
KATSURA SCHOOL
PIANO
NEXT DAY
HELLO, KOJI AYANO.
PIANO ROOM 1
WEEE !!
OKAY, BEFORE ANYONE ELSE GETS HERE, I'D BETTER SCOPE OUT ROOM ONE!!
I'M BUSTING A GHOST!! GET READY, GHOST GUY, I'LL GET YOU!!


!
YUMIKO !!
OH NO!
N...
N...
SATOSHI!!

PIANO ROOM 1
HE SHOULD BE HERE BY NOW!
I DON'T HEAR ANYONE PLAYING!
I DON'T THINK HE'S HERE YET.
YOU MEAN, SATOSHI ?
YES! HE'S HERE EVERY MORNING PLAYING PIANO!


CLICK
SATOSHI? GOOD MORNING!
!

## ☆ CHARACTER PROFILE ☆



### Lili Hoshizawa

| | |
|---|---|
| ☆ Birthday | April 1 |
| ☆ Sign | Aries |
| ☆ Blood Type | B |
| ☆ Favorite food | Grilled beef |
| ☆ Favorite subject | PE |
| ☆ Least favorite subjects | Anything but PE |
| ☆ Favorite color | Red |
| ☆ Hobby | Wearing disguises |
| ☆ Special skills | Astrology, humor |
| ☆ Someone she respects | Her mother |

## Mademoiselle Lili's Astrology (3)

How to treat people with a particular sign

**Virgo (Sign of Virgo) Demeter**

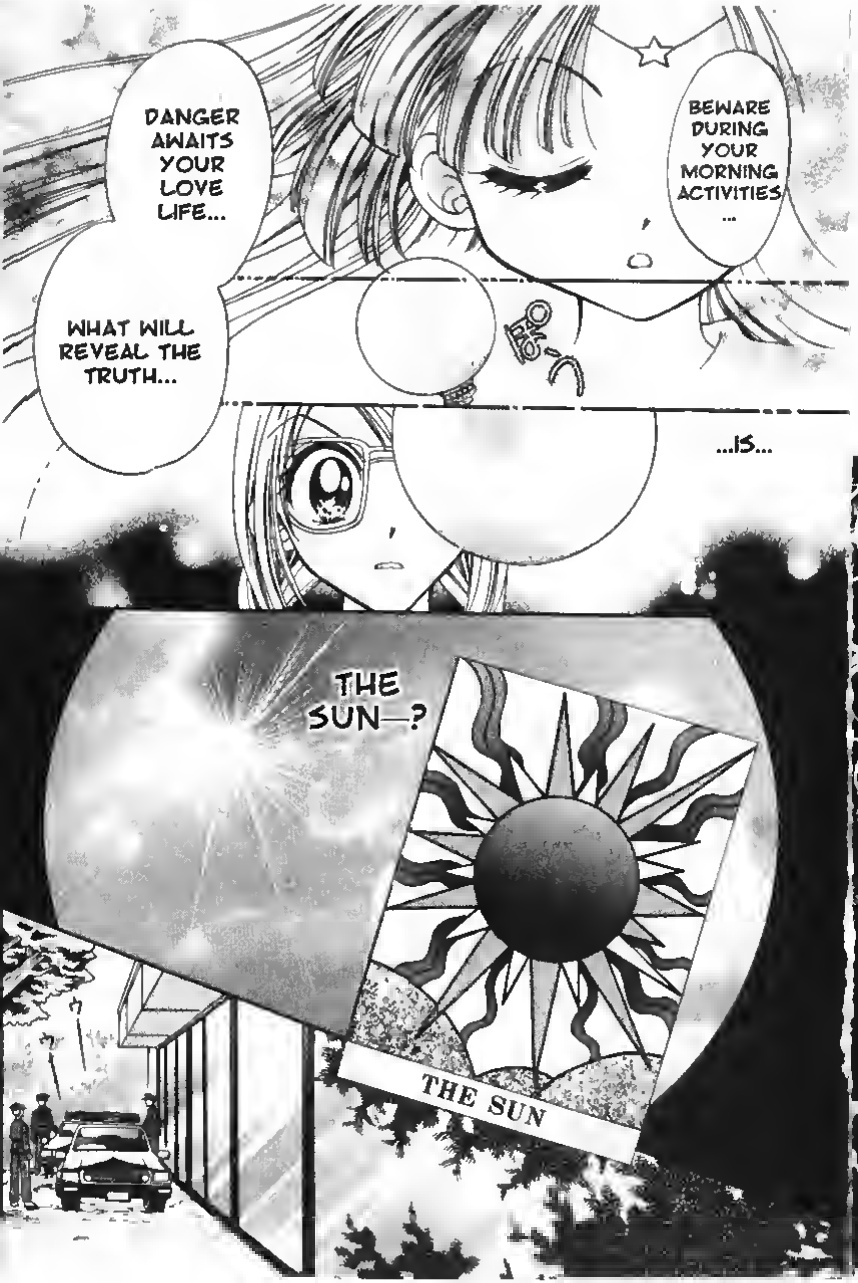
I named her after Demeter, the Greek goddess of agriculture. The Virgo constellation is believed to take the shape of this goddess. Virgos are delicate and intelligent. They have great organizational skills and are good workers. To be good friends with a Virgo, watch your language! Girls, you must act like a lady if you're going to snag a Virgo for yourself.

COME OUT FROM THE RING!!
I'VE GOT TO SOLVE THIS, NO MATTER WHAT!!
SATOSHI OKOBA'S ASTRAL SPIRIT, ANTARES, SPIRIT OF THE SCORPIO ...
ANSWER YOUR MASTER!

THE FLOWERS SATOSHI LOVED SO MUCH...
CALL 911 NOW!!
GOT IT!!
WHATEVER, LIKE I HAVE A CHOICE!
B... BUT,
SCORPIO?
CLOSE
I'VE GOT TO DO HIS HOROSCOPE BEFORE THE POLICE GET HERE!!
PIANO ROOM 4

JUMP ROPE
PUSH-UPS
SIT-UPS
BACK THEN, YOU MADE A NASTY COMMENT, SAYING I DANCED LIKE AN OCTOPUS. SO, EVER SINCE THEN, I'VE PRACTICED AND PRACTICED!! ROPE-SKIPPING, PUSH-UPS, SIT-UPS...
SO, WHAT DO YA THINK! AM I A SPLENDID FLAMENCO DANCER, OR WHAT?!
EXCUSE ME!! WOULD YOU PLEASE BE A LITTLE MORE QUIET WHEN YOU COME OUT?
LONG TIME NO SEE, LILI!! WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER FOR EXACTLY ONE YEAR AND TWELVE DAYS.
OH, PLEASE!! I'LL NEVER, EVER, EVER FORGET WHAT YOU SAID!! YOU GET OVER THAT!!
GOD, I'M SICK OF ARIES!! WHY CAN'T YOU BE A BIT MORE CONSIDERATE?
ANTARES !!
I'VE GOT TO GET ANTARES THE SCORPIO MOVING!!
OUCH !!
ENOUGH, I DON'T HAVE TIME TO ARGUE!!

OLÉ !!


DANGER AWAITS YOUR LOVE LIFE...
BEWARE DURING YOUR MORNING ACTIVITIES...
WHAT WILL REVEAL THE TRUTH...
...IS...
THE SUN—?
THE SUN

MY MISSION?!
THIS IS YOUR MISSION!
GOT IT!! LEAVE IT TO ME!!
PLEASE, GIVE ME HIS HOROSCOPE FOR TODAY!!
SATOSHI OKOBA, BORN NOVEMBER 10TH, 1973.
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN HELP ME!!
GUIDED BY THE RULING PLANET AND THE SUN...
ANTARES SERVES THE OWNER OF THE STAR RING.
SATOSHI OKOBA, TODAY'S SCORPIO'S HOROSCOPE...

DOOR
PIANO
DOOR
THE PIANO IS BETWEEN THE CHAIR AND DOORS.
HE WOULD HAVE KNOWN IF SOMEONE WALKED INTO THE ROOM.
OKAWA!
LOOK AT THE PIANO, THEN LOOK AT THE DOORS.
SOMEONE COULD HAVE BROKEN IN.
VERY UN-LIKELY.
THE VICTIM HAD TO KNOW THE KILLER!
THAT'S WHY THE KILLER WAS ABLE TO WALK IN WITHOUT DISTURBING THE VICTIM.
SEE, IT LOOKS LIKE THE VICTIM WAS PLAYING THE PIANO WHEN HE WAS STABBED!
THE KILLER CAME FROM FROM BEHIND!
TELL ME WHAT YOU DID BETWEEN THE TIME YOU GOT HERE AND THE TIME OF THE MURDER!
I JUST WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU WERE DOING HERE.
I DIDN'T SAY THAT!!
WHAT, DO YOU THINK I KILLED HIM?
THE SUN !!
THE POLICE?
THE POLICE ARE HERE? THAT MEANS...
BUT MS. NORIKO KATSURA?
I KNEW IT!
WE HEARD NO ONE WAS HERE EXCEPT YOU AND THE VICTIM!
THAT IS, UNTIL YUMIKO SHIBATA, THE VICTIM'S FIANCE, SHOWED UP AND FOUND THE BODY.

## Kobe

I went to Kobe for vacation. I've been there before, but last time I went, I almost freaked out! I wanted to see the city skyline at night. You can see it if you take the cablecar. So that's what I did. But there was one itty, bitty problem. I'm terrified of heights!! I just about wet my pants before I calmed down enough to look out the window. I couldn't look long, but I could tell the lights were beautiful, glittering like little gem stones.

YIKES!
OH NO!! HE'S GONNA WALK ALL OVER ME!!
THEN...
GEH.
LILI, HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?! GET YOUR STINKING NOSE OUT OF POLICE WORK! GOT IT?!
DON'T WORRY, YOUNG LADY. AS LONG AS I AM HERE, YOU'RE SAFE. I'LL SOLVE THE CASE!
HE DIDN'T EVEN RECOGNIZE HIS OWN DAUGHTER!
YOU ARE SUCH A BIG IDIOT, DAD
カチ
コチ
カチ

THIS IS MY TERRITORY. GO MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS, YOU DIRTY RAT.
WHY ARE YOU HERE AGAIN?
DARN
OR, IT COULD HAVE BEEN A GHOST!
HEY, YOU!!
WHAT?! A GHOST?
ACTUALLY, THERE SHOULD BE ANOTHER STUDENT!
OKAY, I NEED TO TALK TO EVERYONE WHO WAS HERE THIS MORNING!
IS THIS IT? IS THIS EVERYONE?
MS. KATSURA, I'M SPEAKING TO YOU FIRST!
OKAY, I'LL LOOK FOR HER.

LISTEN. SATOSHI USED TO PLAY THIS MUSIC A LOT, RIGHT?
LILI?
YEAH.
YEAH, IT'S "RAIN-DROP."
THEY SAID HE PLAYED IT EVERY MORNING.
HMM, EVERY MORNING?
THIS IS MORE COMPLICATED THAN THAT.
I DON'T THINK SO. THE KILLER WOULD HAVE NEVER MADE IT SO OBVIOUS.
THAT'S IT. NORIKO PROBABLY --
WELL, IT SEEMS THE ONLY PERSON HERE ALONE WITH THE VICTIM WAS NORIKO.

CHOPIN PRELUDE IN D-FLAT MAJOR, "RAIN-DROP".
PIANO ROOM 2

JEEZ, NORIKO IS STILL GETTING GRILLED. HOW LONG AM I GOING TO HAVE TO WAIT?
HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN?
!
SOUND OF THE PIANO?
THIS, THIS MUSIC.

## Letters

The last time I wrote a letter, I said you could send me a self-addressed, stamped envelope, and I would send you something special. That "something special" is a thank you note. But some fans write to me and forget to give me their name and address. Without that info, I can't send you a thank you note. Also, some of you want me to fill out a biography sheet, with all of my important stats. In Japan, those profiles are called 'sign-cho' papers. I'm sorry, they take so long to fill out, I can't possibly do those.

One thing I do enjoy doing: purikuras. You know, those are photo-booths that print your picture on a sticker. You can choose your background, and I love the cute little backgrounds.

NEVER MIND TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION, IT WOULD BE HOPELESS!
I'D LOSE TOUCH ...
...IF I LOST SOMEONE I LOVED.
NO WAY, LILI, I WON'T TELL!!
YOU'RE MEAN!
WHY?
IT'S AN AMERICAN GIRL!! AM I RIGHT?
ARE YOU IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE?
DANGER AWAITS YOUR LOVE LIFE...
I'M CURIOUS HOW YOU WOULD FEEL IF SOMEONE YOU LOVED DIED?
YOU'RE ASKING ME WHAT?
HIRO, I WANT TO ASK YOU SOMETHING.
ARE YOU IN LOVE?
HOW DARE YOU?!
DO YOU KNOW WHO CAUSED THE...?
BUT PLEASE, DO YOU REALLY THINK I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN LOVE WITH A GIRL!! YOU'RE ALLERGIC TO THEM, REMEMBER?!
HOW COULD YOU ASK SUCH A QUESTION?
SAY WHAT?
WHAT ?

COULD IT BE...?
BEWARE DURING ROUTINE MORNING ACTIVITIES!
JEEZ!
HE PLAYS THE PIANO EVERY MORNING.
WHO'S LEARNING CHOPIN RIGHT NOW?
HIRO, YOU KNOW CHOPIN, RIGHT?

SUNLIGHT...?
OH! THE SUN!
!?
WHAT'S THIS? IT'S SO WET!
OH!
THE ICE IS ALMOST MELTED. IT'S SO WARM TODAY, YOU KNOW?
THE SUNSHINE! IT MELTED THE ICE!

!!
SOMEONE IS STARING AT ME AGAIN!!
PIANO ROOM 2
THIS GIRL ...!!
SATOSHI'S...
STUDENT?
SATOSHI USED TO TEACH CHOPIN. HIS STUDENT IS PROBABLY LEARNING IT!

CHOPIN
LOOK! THIS ONE! CHOPIN!
OH?
DON'T YOU KNOW? HE MUST BE A FAMOUS ARTIST!
CHOPIN? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I SAW SHEET MUSIC WITH HIS NAME ON IT!
A FAMOUS ARTIST I AM NOT AWARE OF? SORRY, THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE!
WHA... WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU WERE PLAYING THIS AND YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WHO THE COMPOSER WAS? YOU'RE NOT MUCH OF A GENIUS, ARE YOU?
WHATEVER!! YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN!!
CHOPIN = SHOW-PAN
YOU'RE NOT SAYING HIS NAME RIGHT!! CHOPIN IS PRONOUNCED "SHOW-PAN"!!
YOU IDIOT!!

SHOOT!!
YOU CAN'T GET AWAY FROM ME!!
!
THAT GIRL!!
!
BYE
HEY, LILI?
SORRY, OKAWA. I'VE GOT TO LOOK INTO SOME-THING!!
THE POLICE WILL HAVE TO QUESTION ME LATER. TELL THEM THAT!
.....
WHY ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY?
WAIT!

WHAAAT?
I HATE IT WHEN SOMEONE HAS A CRUSH ON SATOSHI!!!
OH, BECAUSE...
...YOU BLUSHED WHEN YOU MET SATOSHI.
MIYUKI... YOU'RE JEALOUS?
YOU WERE IN LOVE WITH SATOSHI?
!
MIYUKI
WHEN MY MOTHER DIED...
HE WAS ALWAYS THERE FOR ME!!
!
CHOPIN
THIS BOOK BELONGS TO YOU, DOESN'T IT?
MIYUKI?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO PUSHED ME FROM THE TOP OF THE STAIRS, RIGHT?
WHY'D YOU DO SUCH A THING?

I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL. I LOST MY BEST FRIEND, TOO.
STAY STRONG FOR HER, OKAY?
I WAS TOUCHED BY HIS KINDNESS.
BUT YOUR MOM WOULDN'T BE HAPPY IF SHE KNEW YOU WERE CRYING ALL THE TIME!!
AND I TRIED TO PLAY CHOPIN WELL BECAUSE I KNEW HE ALWAYS LOVED CHOPIN.
.....
THEN...
...HIS ENGAGEMENT MUST HAVE SHOCKED YOU!!
YOU HATED YUMIKO, DIDN'T YOU?
OR MAYBE YOU GOT UPSET AT SATOSHI BECAUSE HE DIDN'T CHOOSE YOU?
WHAT?
YOU WANTED HIM ALL TO YOURSELF, DIDN'T YOU!!
OKAY, OKAY, OKAY! YOU'RE RIGHT!!
THAT'S WHY I DID IT!! THAT'S WHY I KILLED HIM!!
ARE YOU HAPPY NOW?
YOU JUST CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW I FEEL!!

TONIGHT!!
SPICA IS GOING TO SOLVE THE CASE AND UNCOVER THE TRUTH!
I FINALLY FIGURED WHO THE REAL KILLER IS!
THAT MEANS ...
KATSURA SCHOOL
CLICK

HMM, SOMETHING IS STRANGE.
I WOULD FEEL HOPELESS TOO, IF I LOST SOMEONE I LOVED.
AH ...
SHE'S IN TEARS.
HMM, A PICTURE. MIYUKI MUST HAVE DROPPED IT.
WHAT'S WRONG, ULI?

A...
KOJI AYANO!
TSK
TSK
TSK
NO, NO, NO, NO, NOT QUITE.
YOU PROBABLY KNOW ME AS JUST ANOTHER PIANO STUDENT.
BUT ...
THE TRUTH IS...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
.....
ARE YOU, JUST MAYBE, LOOKING FOR THIS?
WHAT BRINGS YOU OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?

YUMIKO!!
SP... SPICA?
I'M SPICA THE P.I.!!
WAIT!
SO YOU ARE THE ONE WHO KILLED HIM!!

IN ORDER TO SOLVE THIS MYSTERY...
There is a ghost at the piano school. There have been some scary things. Can you look into it, Akira Hasegawa
...I INFILTRATED THE PIANO SCHOOL.
WHAT WAS WAITING FOR ME WAS A RUMOR ABOUT GHOST!
THE STAR GUIDED ME TO REVEAL THE TRUTH!!
SO YOU ARE THE ONE WHO KILLED HIM!!

## ☆ Character Profile ☆

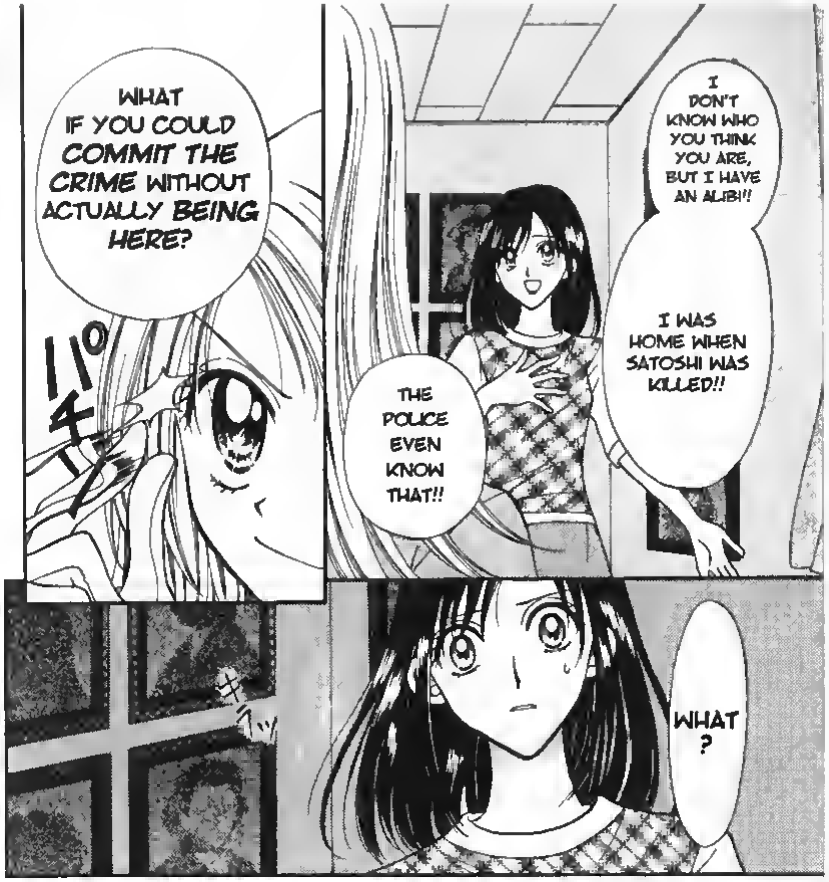
### Hiromi Oikawa

| | |
|---|---|
| ☆ Birthday | January 1 |
| ☆ Sign | Capricorn |
| ☆ Blood Type | AB Neg |
| ☆ Favorite food | The Japanese delicacy nato |
| ☆ Least favorite food | Sweets and meat |
| ☆ Favorite subject(s) | All subjects |
| ☆ Favorite color | Navy blue |
| ☆ Hobby special skills and qualifications | Calligraphy, Japanese"Kanji,"weather forecasting, hazardous material, inspection, accounting (I'm good at everything!!) |

Hiromi is allergic to girls! And strong-minded girls are always showing him up, especially Lili!! Let's hope he improves as a hero So cheer him on!! I love drawing characters with black hair

YUMIKO...
UH, HOLD ON NOW!
YOU WAIT JUST A SECOND!!
REQUIEM FOR THE SCORPIO (PART 3)
十二宮でつかまえて
★File 2★
さそり座の鎮魂曲
(後編)

YOU TIPPED ME OFF, GIVING ME A CLUE.
IF THIS WAS A KNIFE,
IT COULD HAVE STABBED YOU RIGHT IN THE FACE!!
YOU ARE DISHONEST TO THE STAR AND YOU DESERVE A 100-MILLION LIGHT-YEAR PRISON TERM.


WHAT IF YOU COULD COMMIT THE CRIME WITHOUT ACTUALLY BEING HERE?
I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU THINK YOU ARE, BUT I HAVE AN ALIBI!!
I WAS HOME WHEN SATOSHI WAS KILLED!!
THE POLICE EVEN KNOW THAT!!
WHAT?

## Mademoiselle Lili's Astrology (4)

How to treat people with a particular sign

Scorpio (Sign of Scorpio) Antares.
Antares is a star of the first magnitude in the Scorpio constellation. The Scorpion looks calm and cool. They can be very passionate, but they can also be vengeful, so they need a trustworthy partner. Scorpio boys tend to be home-loving and caring.

I THOUGHT, HMM, WHO WOULD PAY ANY ATTENTION TO A VASE AND FLOWERS WHEN SOMEONE HAD JUST BEEN KILLED?!
WOULDN'T YOU BE TOO UPSET TO DO ANYTHING?
ESPECIALLY SINCE YOU TRULY LOVED HIM?
LATER THAT MORNING, WHEN YOU CAME INTO THE ROOM, YOU QUICKLY PUT THE RUBBER BAND AWAY SO NO ONE WOULD SEE YOUR TRAP.
THEN YOU MOPPED UP THE MELTED ICE.
THIS IS HOW IT WORKS: AROUND THE TIME SATOSHI WAS HERE PLAYING THE PIANO,
THE SUN HEATED THE ICE, CAUSING IT TO MELT.
AFTER A WHILE, THE PIANO WIRE SLIPPED OFF THE ICE!
THAT RELEASED THE KNIFE, CAUSING IT TO FALL TOWARD SATOSHI!!

A BLOCK OF ICE!!
AND THAT IS...
THEN YOU PUT THE KNIFE IN PLACE.
YOU TIED THE KNIFE TO THE CORNER OF THE ROOM USING THE PIANO WIRE.
YOU MADE SURE THE RUBBER BAND WAS PARALLEL TO THE FRONT SIDE OF THE PIANO.
THEN YOU HOOKED BOTH ENDS OF RUBBER BAND ONTO THE PICTURE FRAMES.
FIRST, YOU MADE THE BOOBY TRAP, USING A RUBBER BAND AND PIANO WIRE!
PIANO WIRE
RUBBER BAND
THIS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO COMMIT THE MURDER WITHOUT ACTUALLY BEING HERE.
WHAT'S IMPORTANT HERE IS WHAT WAS HOLDING THE PIANO WIRE.
THEN YOU PULLED THE END OF THE PIANO WIRE ALL THE WAY TO THE VASE ON THE TABLE.

HIROYUKI,
I LOVE THE WAY YOU PLAY CHOPIN'S "RAINDROP."
THEN I WILL PLAY IT FOR YOU EVERYDAY FROM NOW ON!
HE DIED BECAUSE...
...OF SATOSHI!!

...YUMI-KO,
THE ONE YOU REALLY LOVE...
WHEN I THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT I WOULD FEEL IF I LOST A LOVED ONE, I REALIZED ...
!
...IS THIS GUY, ISN'T IT?
N... NO...
HE DIDN'T KILL HIMSELF!!
PERHAPS THE ONE WHO COMMITTED SUICIDE IN THIS BUILDING IS...

## Thank you

I receive letters from fans telling how they think the mysteries will turn out. There was one reader who was right about Chihiro's killer, the victim in File one. I was so impressed that I felt like giving her some kind of a prize!! Ha Ha!! Bravo!!

I would like to express special thanks to the wonderful people who make my life easier

Mika Murase - thanks for bringing me tasty treats

Sachiyo Murase - thanks for helping me work

Marino Shirasawa - thanks for visiting me

Aiko Tsunoda - thanks for taking time to edit my work during your leave

Also thanks to Eami and Zushi!!

Finally, thanks to you all, the readers !!

Send any comments to me at

Natsumi Ando
Nakayoshi
Editorial Office
P.O. Box 91
Akasaka Post Office
Tokyo, Japan 107-8652

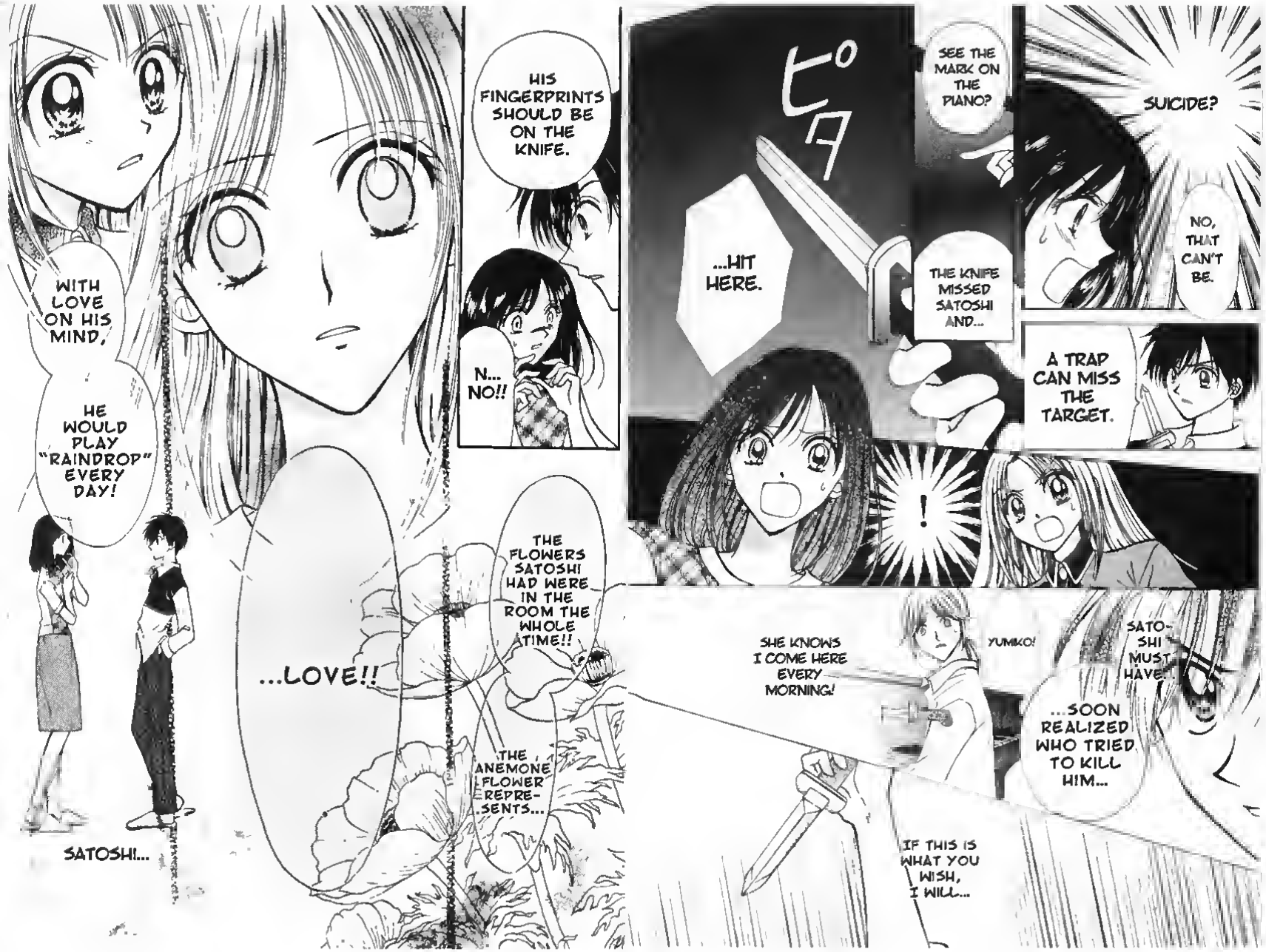
or TOKYOPOP
5900 Wilshire Blvd.
Suite 2000, Los Angeles
CA, 90036

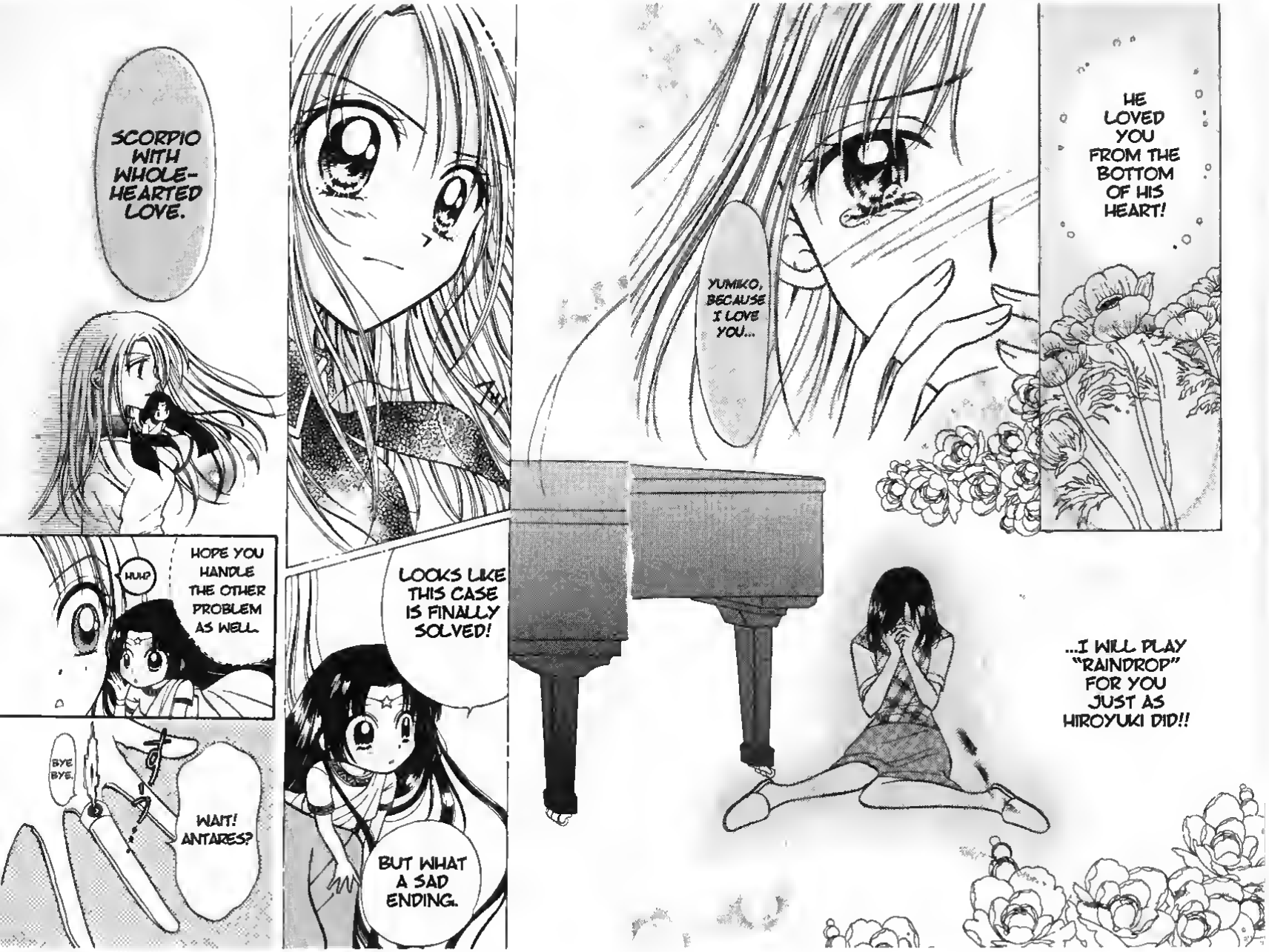
WOULD YOU BE MY GIRL-FRIEND?
I WILL PLAY "RAINDROP" FOR YOU JUST AS HIROYUKI DID.
SATOSHI TRIED SO HARD TO MAKE ME FEEL BETTER.
BUT I HAPPENED TO LISTEN TO A CONVER-SATION BETWEEN SATOSHI AND NORIKO.
HE WILL HELP ME GET OVER THE TRAGEDY.
I TRULY TRUSTED HIM!
!
SO HE HUNG HIMSELF, RIGHT IN THIS ROOM!!
HIRO-YUKI ...
IT WAS THE DAY OF HIS CON-CERT. HIS DREAM OF BE-COMING A PROFES-SIONAL PIANIST WAS ABOUT TO COME TRUE.
BUT HE ENDED UP IN A BAD CAR WRECK. HIS FINGERS WERE HURT VERY BAD.
THAT ENDED HIS DREAM.
HE GOT SUPER DEPRESSED.
YUMIKO ...

AND ...
...I GOT MY REVENGE FOR HIROYUKI!!
!
WELL, IT'S ALL OVER NOW.
TZU ...
LEAVE ME ALONE!!
I DID WHAT I HAD TO DO!!
YUMIKO, STOP IT!!
I WAS SO JEALOUS OF HIM!! HE HAD YUMIKO AND A CAREER AS A PROFESSIONAL PIANIST!!
IF HE HADN'T BEEN SO RUSHED, MAYBE THERE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN AN ACCIDENT!!
IF ONLY I HADN'T HIDDEN HIS SHEET MUSIC RIGHT BEFORE THE CONCERT!
I...
SATOSHI, IS THAT TRUE?
NOBODY WILL KNOW ANY OF THIS IF YOU DON'T TELL ANYONE ELSE.
NOW THAT HE IS GONE, YUMIKO IS YOURS.
THERE IS NOTHING YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT NOW!!
AND THEN ...
I STARTED TO SPREAD A RUMOR ABOUT A GHOST IN THE BUILDING, TRYING TO DRIVE HIM AWAY.
MY LOVE FOR SATOSHI DISAPPEARED. IT WAS THEN THAT I FILLED WITH RAGE!!

REVENGE JUST CREATES MORE SADNESS!
OKAWA?
SATOSHI WASN'T MURDERED.
GASP
BUT ...
HE KILLED HIMSELF.

THIS IS...
...NOT WHAT HIROYUKI WOULD WANT.
I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN HURT ENOUGH ALREADY,
BUT WHAT COULD YOU GET OUT OF REVENGE?
YOU'RE JUST HURTING MORE PEOPLE!
SHE'S RIGHT.


WITH LOVE ON HIS MIND,
HE WOULD PLAY "RAINDROP" EVERY DAY!
SATOSHI...
...LOVE!!
THE FLOWERS SATOSHI HAD WERE IN THE ROOM THE WHOLE TIME!!
THE ANEMONE FLOWER REPRE-SENTS...
HIS FINGERPRINTS SHOULD BE ON THE KNIFE.
N... NO!!
ピ ア
...HIT HERE.
SEE THE MARK ON THE PIANO?
THE KNIFE MISSED SATOSHI AND...
!
SUICIDE?
NO, THAT CAN'T BE.
A TRAP CAN MISS THE TARGET.
SHE KNOWS I COME HERE EVERY MORNING!
YUMIKO!
SATO-SHI MUST HAVE...
...SOON REALIZED WHO TRIED TO KILL HIM...
IF THIS IS WHAT YOU WISH, I WILL...


SCORPIO WITH WHOLE-HEARTED LOVE.
HUH?
HOPE YOU HANDLE THE OTHER PROBLEM AS WELL.
BYE BYE.
WAIT! ANTARES?
LOOKS LIKE THIS CASE IS FINALLY SOLVED!
BUT WHAT A SAD ENDING.
YUMIKO, BECAUSE I LOVE YOU...
HE LOVED YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF HIS HEART!
...I WILL PLAY "RAINDROP" FOR YOU JUST AS HIROYUKI DID!!

LET'S LEAVE EVERYTHING TO THE POLICE.
I'M OUTTA HERE!!
OKAWA CAN'T MOVE AS QUICKLY AS I CAN.
ACK!!
OR ...
YOU CAN'T GET AWAY FROM ME THIS TIME, SPICA,
THE OTHER...
PROBLEM?
STARE...
HEY!
THIS ONE?
THE POLICE?
!?
FREEZE!! WHAT ARE YOU ALL DOING HERE?

DON'T TRY TO CHANGE THE SUBJECT!!
I DON'T HAVE A CLUE WHAT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT!!
PAIN.
THIS IS ...
...DISAPPOINTING TO ME.
SPICA, I ADMIRE YOU SO MUCH!
うおっ～～
WAIT, I'M GETTING TOO UPSET.
IT'S MY MOM YOU ADMIRE, NOT ME!!
LILI!
NO ...
I GOT YOU!!

[PUBLISHED IN "NAKAYOSHI" APRIL, AUGUST ISSUES, 2001]

"STAY ON YOUR GUARD"?
"SOMEONE CLOSE TO YOU WILL BE IN DANGER"?
OH NO!
THIS DOESN'T SOUND GOOD AT ALL!!
DOES THIS MEAN I'M GOING TO GET ANOTHER CASE?
キーンコーンカーン
OH?
JEEZ, WHY ALL THE PEOPLE?
COMING THROUGH!!
EXCUSE ME!!

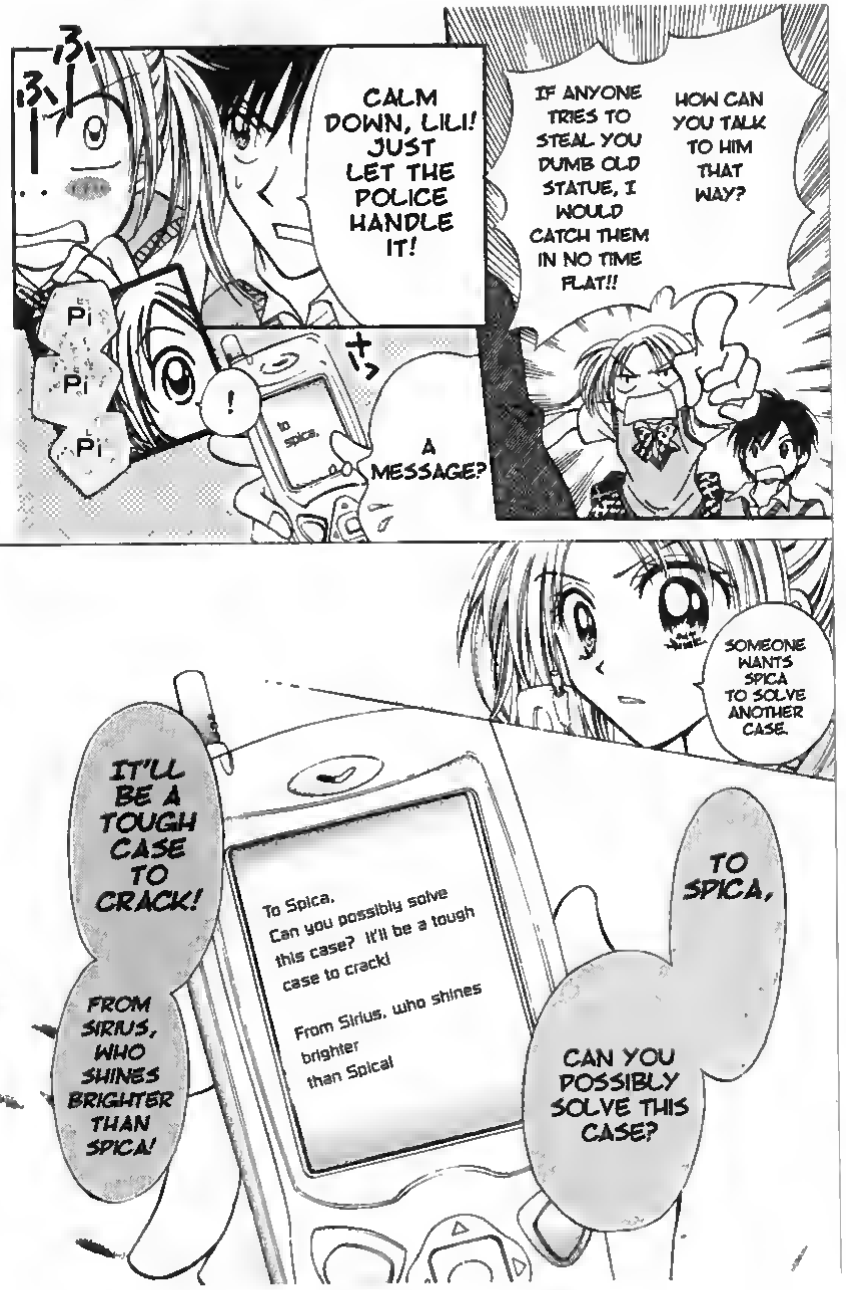
# BLACK HOLE OF THE LEO

## ★File 3★

## しし座のブラックホール

LOOK. THE LETTER SAYS SOMEONE IS GOING TO STEAL MY GOLD STATUE!
PRINCIPAL MUHOMATSU. I AM GOING TO STEAL YOUR GOLD STATUE TONIGHT!
A THREATENING LETTER?
I SPENT $429,000.00 ON IT!!
THIS STATUE IS MY TREASURE. IT'S MY LIFE!
IF IT GETS STOLEN, YOU ARE GOING TO LOSE YOUR JOB!!
GOT IT!! YOU STUPID COP!!
THIS MAY BE A HOAX!
HOW ARE WE GOING TO PROTECT MY STATUE?
429 THOUSAND?
ARE YOU SURE IT'S ALL GOING TO BE OKAY?
WHAT THE ...?
OI-KA-WA!
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
SOMEONE SENT A THREATENING LETTER TO THE PRINCIPAL!
DAD?
WHY ARE THE POLICE HERE?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO YELL! I CAN HEAR YOU, OKAY?
PRINCIPAL MUHOMATSU!

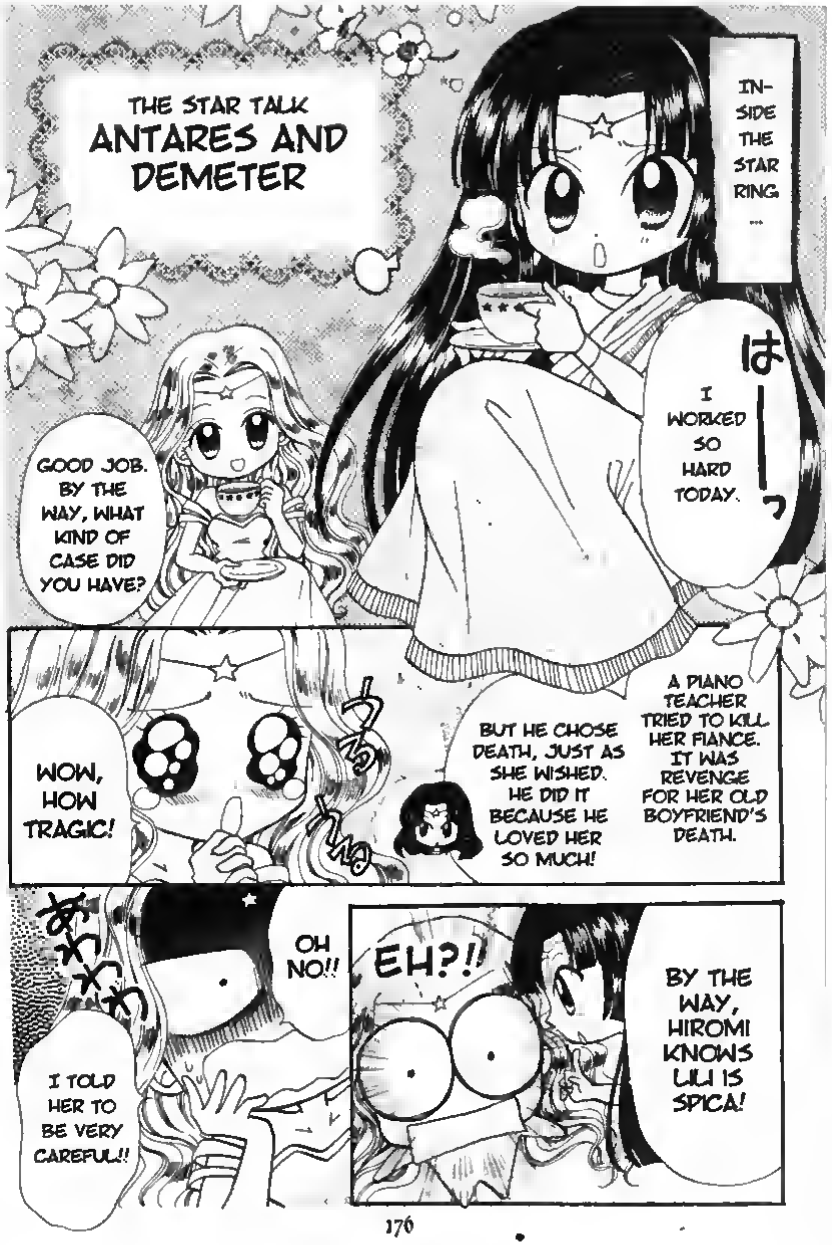
BUSU
OKAY, FINE!
SHOW ME WHAT YOU'VE GOT!
Message sent
SIRIUS...
SIRIUS? WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?
To be continued in Volume 2


CALM DOWN, LILI! JUST LET THE POLICE HANDLE IT!
Pi Pi Pi
A MESSAGE?
IF ANYONE TRIES TO STEAL YOU DUMB OLD STATUE, I WOULD CATCH THEM IN NO TIME FLAT!!
HOW CAN YOU TALK TO HIM THAT WAY?
SOMEONE WANTS SPICA TO SOLVE ANOTHER CASE.
TO SPICA,
To Spica,
Can you possibly solve this case? It'll be a tough case to crack!
From Sirius, who shines brighter than Spica!
CAN YOU POSSIBLY SOLVE THIS CASE?
IT'LL BE A TOUGH CASE TO CRACK!
FROM SIRIUS, WHO SHINES BRIGHTER THAN SPICA!

あ〜あ
あ〜あ
あ〜あ
あ〜あ
I'LL BE DOOMED!!
THEN I'LL BE SOLD TO A CIRCUS!
WHAT WILL WE DO IF HE BLACKMAILS RIRI? WHAT IF HE TRIES TO EXTORT HUSH MONEY, LET'S SAY $85,000.00 OR MORE, FROM HER? HE COULD FORCE HER TO MARRY HIM BY THREATENING HER! WHAT IF HE TURNS INTO A VIOLENT HUSBAND, AND THEY RUN UP A BUNCH OF DEBT?

BECAUSE IT LOOKS LIKE AN OCTOPUS-DANCE.
YOU KNOW, YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE HOW MEAN LILI WAS TO ME TODAY. SHE MADE FUN OF MY FLAMENCO DANCE AGAIN!
I WILL NEVER EVER FORGET YOU SAID THAT!!
THAT BOY SURE DOESN'T STAND UP TO LILI. EVERYTHING WILL BE JUST FINE.
DON'T STRESS!! YOU ARE SUCH A WORRY WART!!
PAT
PAT
DON'T YOU THINK SO?

THEY SAY A VIRGO AND A SCORPIO CAN BE BEST FRIENDS ONCE THEY GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER.


THE STAR TALK
ANTARES AND DEMETER
IN-SIDE THE STAR RING ...
はーっ
I WORKED SO HARD TODAY.
GOOD JOB. BY THE WAY, WHAT KIND OF CASE DID YOU HAVE?
WOW, HOW TRAGIC!
BUT HE CHOSE DEATH, JUST AS SHE WISHED. HE DID IT BECAUSE HE LOVED HER SO MUCH!
A PIANO TEACHER TRIED TO KILL HER FIANCE. IT WAS REVENGE FOR HER OLD BOYFRIEND'S DEATH.
OH NO!!
I TOLD HER TO BE VERY CAREFUL!!
EH?!
BY THE WAY, HIROMI KNOWS LILI IS SPICA!

**How can I become a manga artist?**

Many readers tell me they want to be manga artists. Many ask if they can learn it in school. I don't think many schools offer courses on manga. The best way to do it is to go ahead and create your art. Then, send it to a publisher every few months.

**How do you name your characters?**

To create a character, I first decide on her face and personality. After that, I try to brainstorm, hoping to come up with the perfect name. If that doesn't work, I might use my friends' names. I also like names with meanings, so sometimes I make up a name.

I am in charge of the "Astral Spirit Design Contest" for Nakayoshi. I always dreamed of having such a project. I haven't seen all the works submitted, but many of them are very impressive. I'm having the toughest time choosing the winner. Thanks to all who participated in the contest. I will let you know more about the contest in volume 2.

Thanks for sticking around!
I hope to talk to you all soon!

# Q&A

Using the couple of extra pages, I would like to answer frequently asked questions from the readers. Hope you enjoy!

**How can I become a better artist?**

I get a ton of questions like this. I want to improve my drawing too!! In my opinion, you have to keep practicing. Make it a habit of drawing something everyday. Try to draw people in different poses and various facial expressions. You won't perfect the art of drawing overnight. It takes time. When I see drawings that I did many years ago, I can appreciate how much I've improved!

**What are you into these days?**

I am into collecting rings. Two of my favorites are a band that's made of leather. It looks like a belt. The other, a ring with a heart-shaped stone. The stone changes colors. It has up to seven different colors!

I also enjoy bathing with bath gels! I especially like the milky ones. Conditioning ones aren't bad either. I've tried vanilla, strawberry, and mud bath gels, too. I didn't like the muddy ones!

Coming Soon

Volume 2

Lili is flooded with cases involving some people who are near and dear to her heart, but she somehow manages to go on with her life. However, her appearance on an astrology TV show may prove to be out of her league when an astrologist is poisoned. It's her first high-profile case and it's up to Lili to solve the case before the public court!

Manga/Mystery
USA $9.99

# Zodiac P.I.

**What's Your Sign?!**

**Lili is just like any other normal girl — except she can foretell the future! This "Zodiac P.I." relies on horoscopes and astrology to help her solve crimes and track down criminals. When Lili's classmate is murdered, it's up to the Zodiac P.I. to solve the case. With a little help from her friend Hiromi, she vows to track down the killer. When she suspects one of her own teachers is to blame, Lili must follow her instincts...and the stars...until she finds the truth. Once that case is behind her, Lili receives an anonymous letter alerting her to the presence of a ghost in a nearby piano school. When Lili goes undercover as a piano student to investigate, she soon stumbles upon a bloody crime scene and finds herself investigating yet another murder. Will the Zodiac P.I. be able to unravel this mystery before the killer strikes again?!**

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